

# The Middlebury Campus

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## Eliot Spitzer to speak at College on regulation

By Adam Schaffer

Former Attorney General and Governor of New York Eliot Spitzer will speak at Mead Chapel about government regulation on Wall Street on Thursday, April 26. Spitzer will be Middlebury College Activities Board (MCAB)'s second major speaker in the last four years, after Reverend Al Sharpton lectured students on the dangers of complacency in 2009.

A virtual unknown, Spitzer quickly rose to fame as New York Attorney General (1999-2006), where he aggressively prosecuted white-collar crime. Reversing a trend some call "desupervision," explained Professor of Economics Robert Prasch, Spitzer redefined the office of the Attorney General by enforcing laws previously ignored by — and traditionally under the jurisdiction of — federal regulators.

"He was very aware of the fact

[federal regulators] were not doing a good job [enforcing existing laws]," Prasch said. His actions demonstrated that "they didn't have it under control, they had screwed it up, and screwed up pretty badly.... He sort of embarrassed them."

Spitzer was successful in a number of investigations, including a \$1 billion-plus settlement involving 10 major New York investment firms in 2003.

His tenure as governor, however, became defined by scandal. Fourteen months after taking office, Spitzer resigned once his involvement in a high-end prostitution ring became public in March 2008.

The scandal was not the end of his career, though. Spitzer has remained involved in politics as a commentator on major cable news outlets, including CNN and MSNBC. On March 30, it was an-

nounced he would join Current TV, television network of former Vice President Al Gore.

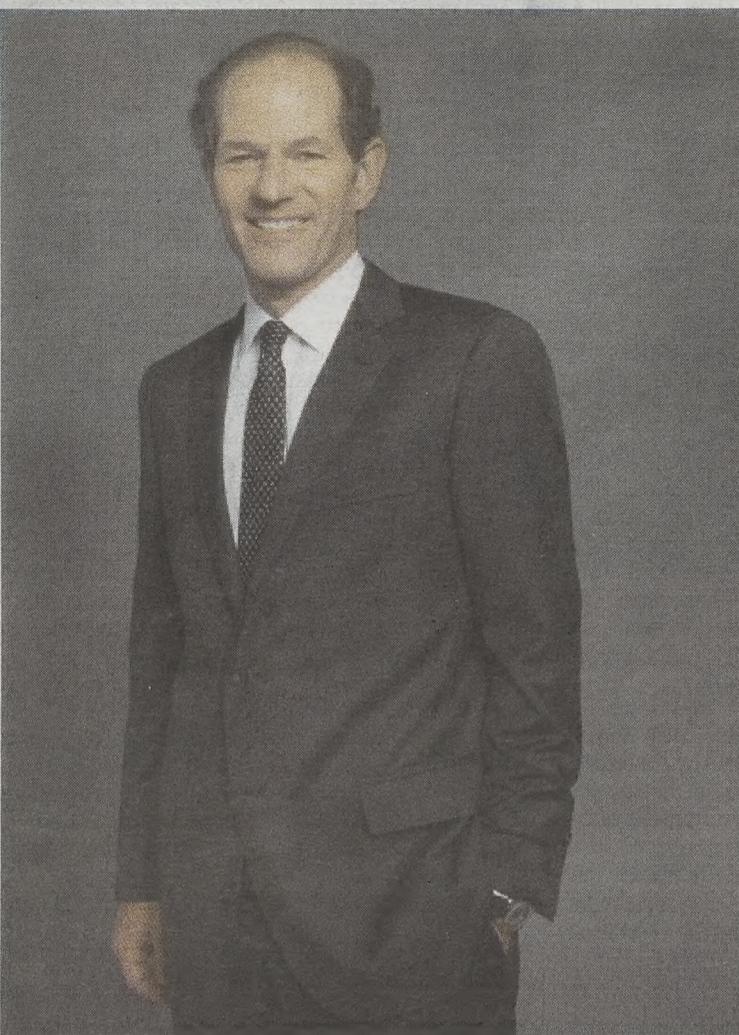
Chair of the MCAB Speakers Committee Genevieve Dukes '13 hopes Spitzer's professional and personal past will spur a wide range of debates in the coming weeks.

"We as a committee do not believe our job is to bring exclusively role models to campus," Dukes said. From discussions on government regulation to the divide between public and private life, she added, Spitzer promises to stimulate thought on a wide range of issues.

After some discussion, the talk will include an open question and answer section instead of the pre-screened questions as MCAB had initially considered.

Conservatives on campus question what sort of debate another liberal speaker can really start on a

SEE SPITZER, PAGE 2



COURTESY

MCAB will host former New York State Attorney General and Governor Eliot Spitzer on April 26.

## Admissions selects Class of 2016

By Allison Forrest

The College received a record 8,849 applicants for the Class of 2016, a four percent increase from last year's applicant pool of 8,533. Sixteen percent of Regular Decision admits received acceptances when the decisions were announced March 30.

Despite a small decrease in Early Decision I applicants to the College — likely due to the resumption of Early Decision plans at several high-profile colleges including Harvard, Princeton and the University of Virginia — the overall increase in applicants is indicative of Middlebury's continued presence as a leading liberal arts college, College officials say.

According to Dean of Admissions Greg Buckles, Middlebury's signature programs in environmental

studies and its strong global outlook are part of the College's attraction.

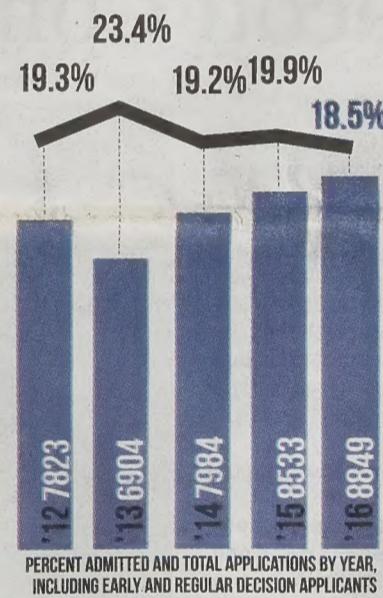
"The President of the College and others have been pushing boundaries of what a liberal arts college these days means," he said. "I think we're all excited about that."

The increasing importance of global connectedness has also spurred an increase in the importance of diversity, Buckles added.

This year, 20 percent of applicants were students of color, with 29 percent of those admitted being students of color, an increase over last year. The number of international students in the applicant and admit pool increased as well, while domestic geographic diversity remained relatively stable.

Buckles attributes the change

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## FINANCIAL GIFTS? HOW ABOUT AVOCADOS!



## Students prep for spring symposium

By Lauren Davidson

The College's annual Spring Student Symposium will be held on Friday, April 20, and will showcase the projects and research of over 300 students. A welcome address by President of the College Ronald D. Liebowitz will be held on April 19, and Brian Deese '00 will be the symposium's keynote speaker.

The symposium was originally designed to showcase and commend the academic and creative interests of the student body. An advisory committee made up of students and College faculty members selected this year's participants, who will be presenting on a variety of topics and academic interests.

"The presentations are related to anything and everything that the students have done that is connected to academics at Middlebury," said Director of Learning Resources and Lecturer in Psychology Yonna McShane. "It could be something a student did for a class or a research project for an internship. The requirement is that it must be something that is unique and represents a very special and engaging piece of work that he or she has created."

This year's Spring Student Symposium boasts over 300 presenters, from first-years to seniors, up from approximately 220 students at last year's symposium. In order to be considered for participation, each student was required to present a proposal to the selection committee, write an abstract and obtain faculty sponsorship and aid.

"It's a yearlong process to put this together, and it's incredibly exciting," said McShane.

In addition to the quality and quantity of student work at the symposium, McShane and the advisory committee are very excited about the symposium's keynote speaker. Deese will speak on Thursday evening to begin the symposium's festivities. A distinguished graduate of the College, Deese worked on Hillary Clinton's election campaign in 2008 and is currently the Deputy Director of the National Economic Council and Special Assistant to the President of Economic Policy in Washington, D.C.

"He will be here for a day and a half and plans to interact with students. He is really making himself very available and is very delighted to be back," said McShane.

McShane added that the reception on Friday evening will include a special surprise that is in keeping with the spirit of the celebration, much like last year's flash mob.

The symposium will coincide with the Class of 2016 accepted students preview days, giving potential future students an opportunity to see the type of research that is done at the College.

"These are your friends, teammates, kids in your math class or writing workshop, and they're doing incredible work," said Cailin Sullivan '13, a member of the symposium advisory committee.

"Middlebury as a community is so diverse, talented, you might

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VERMONT GOES NUCLEAR OVER YANKEE PLANT  
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SEE WHERE SPRING TEAMS SPENT THEIR BREAKS  
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SENIOR THEATER PLACES A FINAL "KISS" ON COLLEGE CAREERS  
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Tensions continue to rise on the Korean Peninsula as the North Korean government prepares to launch a long-range ballistic missile in commemoration of the 100th anniversary of the birth of Kim Il-Sung, the founder of the communist state. According to North Korean officials the missile will be launched between April 12 and April 16 from the Tongchang-ri missile facility.

In the days following the announcement of the imminent launch, the North Korean government has worked to placate international criticism, demonstrating the civilian purposes of the satellite. According to a report by the Korean Central News Agency, officials have stated that the satellite will be used to monitor weather, survey the severity of natural disasters and accumulate research data.

American and Japanese officials, however, remain unconvinced.

The American government has responded to the display of military power by cancelling a shipment of food aid that had previously been promised to Pyongyang. U.S. government officials have called for the termination of the missile launch. In an interview with the *LA Times*, U.S. State Department spokeswoman Victoria Nuland stated that the missile launch, "would pose a threat to regional security."

South Korea has made the same demand of its northern neighbor, but has worked to prepare its military and civilians in the event of missile launch. The military is practicing drills to prepare to shoot down the satellite in the event that the missile is launched and crosses South Korean airspace. The South Korean government has also declared that they plan to evacuate citizens who live along the Yellow Sea in the event of a launch.

Both the U.S. and Japanese governments have demonstrated that they will seek the involvement of the United Nations, illustrating that the North Korean government would be in violation of international law should they choose to deploy the missile.

Officials have also raised concern over satellite images taken in northeastern Punghye-ri, the site of two prior nuclear tests in 2006 and 2009. According to a leaked South Korean report, the North Korean government maybe in preparation for a third nuclear test. Satellite images have shown piles of sand and earth at the entrance of a tunnel – possible evidence of the last stages of preparation to plug the subterranean tunnel before a blast. Officials have explained that similar piles of dirt were seen before the two previous tests.

In an apparent effort to improve relations with the west, North Korean officials have permitted international journalists to tour the Tongchang-ri ballistic missile facility. Some experts have noted that North Korea does not retain the firepower to inflict significant damage, reducing fears surrounding the nation's nuclear powers.

In an interview with CNN, International Security Analyst from MIT Jim Walsh explained, "There are two characteristics if you have a modern missile program: One is solid fuel, and the other is a modern-guidance system. This missile has neither of those."

Walsh explained that he believes the missile launch is being used by the young North Korean leader Kim Jong-Un as a means of demonstrating his legitimacy in the wake of his father's death. While the North Korean government often uses military aggression to communicate with the international media, Walsh explained that this initiative is likely being done to demonstrate Un's strength during a time of political transition.

While the true intentions behind the missile launch remain unclear, the international spotlight will remain fixed on North Korea for weeks to come. On April 3, the Washington D.C.-based Committee for Human Rights in North Korea issued a 200-page report calling for the elimination of the network of Soviet-style North Korean prisoner camps. The document observes the 150,000 to 200,000 people currently incarcerated, and it is believed to escalate the tension between Pyongyang and the international community.

# College acceptance rate drops to 18%

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

to the success of Discover Middlebury, a visit program for underrepresented minorities, the addition of a Chicago Posse and increased travel and outreach to many community-based organizations.

The admissions department has attempted to go beyond skin color and hometown, however, in search of a truly "diverse" class. Socio-economic status and academic and extracurricular interests — from the arts to athletics and community organizing — also figured into the decisions.

"The fact that this is the largest applicant pool in Middlebury history speaks to how strong it is," said Buckles. "What we're trying to do is broker among all the different constituencies to put together a class that satisfies all of those categories."

The target number for the Class of 2016 is around 600 students for September admission and 100 for February, continuing a trend of increasing enrollments. Because Admissions aims to fill 45 to 48 percent of the class through Early Decision I and II, they are expecting around 300 of the Regular Decision admits to accept their offer of admission, resulting in a yield of around 27 percent of the approximately 1100 Regular Decision admits.

To attract prospective students before the May 1 matriculation deadline, the College hosts Preview Days April 18-20.

"Having Preview Days Wednesday to Friday allows students and their families to see a natural slice of life at Middlebury," Buckles

said.

Students will be able stay overnight with student hosts, sit in on classes, and participate in the various activities. They will also be able to attend the Student Symposium, which will occur on Friday, April 20.

Additionally, Admissions have resumed a Phone-a-thon to congratulate accepted students and answer any of their questions.

To further personalize the process, web chats with Admissions staff and other accepted students are also available for prospective students, and students will also receive personal letters from Admissions staff.

"Given that we are in such an electronic age, sometimes it is a challenge to make [admissions] a personal process," Buckles said, "so the fact that we can still reach out or make a phone call or send a tactile letter really means something. It's a nice touch."

Though many admits still have a tough decision to make, others are sure that they will be part of Middlebury's Class of 2016. For Gus Longo, a high school senior from Cumberland, Maine, many factors led to him choose Middlebury.

"I could just picture myself at every single spot on campus," he wrote in an email. "The fact that Middlebury is the five-time defending World Cup Quidditch champion was really cool. I was inspired to help start up a Quidditch team at my own high school. I just couldn't wait to be at Middlebury and luckily, they want me to be there too."

## Miller-Lane to head Wonnacott Commons

By Charlotte O'Herron

On March 23, Dean of the College and Chief Diversity Officer Shirley Collado announced that Assistant Professor of Education Studies Jonathon Miller-Lane will become the head of Wonnacott Commons next fall, replacing current co-heads Deb Evans and Will Nash, who have held the position for the past eight years.

The Commons System was created with the purpose of bringing together the Middlebury community, with the Commons Head working closely with students to enrich the social and intellectual experience on campus.

Evans and Nash have fulfilled these responsibilities by working within a wide variety of programs, such as the Common Reading program and the sophomore experience program, both of which created a closer community of students, faculty and staff.

Jonathan Miller-Lane has taught at Middlebury in the Education Studies department since 2003 and currently serves on Faculty Council and the Ad-Hoc Committee on Stress. He also works with students as an adviser, mentor and Aikido instructor.

Miller-Lane has taught both at the high school and college level, and he possesses a familiarity with both public and private education.

"I've had a mix of educational experiences that a lot of Middlebury students have had," said Miller-Lane.

Miller-Lane's first experience with the Commons System was as a professor with a first-year seminar called Liberal Arts and Aikido. He views the FYS program as a vital part of both the academic curriculum and the Commons experience.

He became interested in the role of physical space in bringing students and faculty together. His belief in the importance of learning outside the formal classroom has inspired him to participate in the Commons System himself.

"The great experience that teaching here has to offer is in getting to know the wonderful students that we have here," said Miller-Lane. "Students are interested in so many different things, and the challenge of course is balancing these interests."

He noted that the residential life staff works hard to improve the ways in which students balance their multiple commitments, and he believes that the Commons System has the ability to facilitate discussion on how students can learn, live, think and engage with one another.

"It is difficult for students to be 100 percent committed to courses, 100 percent to their ex-



VINCENT A JONES

Miller-Lane will become the head of Wonnacott Commons next fall.

tracurricular activities and 100 percent to their perceived right to 'play,'" said Miller-Lane.

He looks forward to working closely with the Student Life staff, stating that, "every single faculty Commons Head has told me that the wonderful and rich relationships they develop with students is one of the highlights of the position."

Miller-Lane will bring new ideas to Wonnacott Commons. Fascinated by recent neuroscience research on the ability of engaged contemplative practices to reduce stress levels, Miller-Lane hopes to integrate such practices into the ways students at Middlebury think and learn.

He views contemplative practices as an interesting and helpful complement to an academic program that stresses a critical approach to understanding the world.

"I'm very interested in seeing whether the commons space can be both a temporal and physical space where contemplative practices and critical analysis might be brought together in a creative way for student life, as well as faculty and staff life," he said.

Miller-Lane's wife, Dr. Karen Miller-Lane, is a Naturopathic Physician and licensed acupuncturist who will join him at the Wonnacott House. Miller-Lane looks forward to his wife's involvement and believes that her experience in sustaining health and well-being gives her a tremendous amount to offer to Wonnacott students.

## Spitzer to take open questions

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predominately liberal campus.

"I don't necessarily see him pushing people's beliefs," said President of the College Republicans Katie Earle '12, alluding to the fact most students already agree with Spitzer's mindset. "A real way to stimulate dialogue is to bring conservative speakers."

How liberal Spitzer actually is remains a point of contention.

"I've talked to him," Prasch said. "I think he's a fairly centrist kind of guy [who] just really believes in the law."

Spitzer has, however, come out in support of the liberal Occupy Wall Street movement.

"Occupy Wall Street is a necessary and critical voice and it should continue," he said, according to *Politico*. With encampments gone, Spitzer hopes to see greater organization and a clearer "definition of purpose."

Politics aside, Prasch says Spitzer's approach to regulation could have mitigated the effects of the current financial crisis. The housing bubble would likely have been smaller and popped earlier if Spitzer's approach had been replicated at the national level.

MCAB spoke with faculty and staff before inviting Spitzer, Dukes said, and they supported the decision.

Prasch agreed, noting that there are more victims of the banking sector's excesses than Spitzer's personal wrongdoings.

"I'm not that interested in the private foibles of public figures," he said. "If it doesn't affect his job, I really don't care."

Doors for the talk will open at 7 p.m., and the Spitzer will take the stage at Mead Chapel at 7:30 p.m. Students will be given priority seating and live streams will be broadcasted in McCullough Social Space or Dana Auditorium.

## MCAB's WHAT'S HAPPENING AT MIDDLEBURY?

### What is Happiness?

*A lecture featuring Thomas Barefoot, co-coordinator of Gross National Happiness USA*

**THURSDAY AT 12:15 P.M.**

### Trivia Night

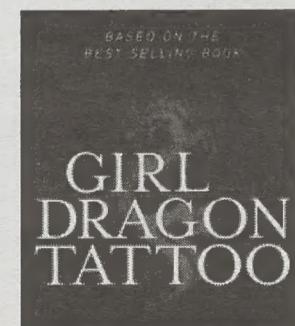
*Come test your knowledge at Crossroads Cafe. 21+ bring two forms of ID*

**THURSDAY AT 9 P.M.**

### Free Friday Film

*The Girl with the Dragon Tattoo will play at Dana*

**FRIDAY AT 7 & 10 P.M.**



### Saturday Matinee

*The Lion King will play at Crossroads*

**SATURDAY AT 3 P.M.**

### Zumba

*Dance out your stress at the McCullough Social Space*

**SUNDAY AT 4 P.M.**

**Tickets for Wale (4/21) will sell out soon, buy yours at go/wale**

# CCSRE turns focus to migration for 2012-13

By Nate Sans

The College's Center for the Comparative Study of Race and Ethnicity (CCSRE) has announced that its theme for the 2012-2013 academic year will be "Race, Ethnicity and Migrations," as selected by a panel of faculty and students. Speakers and screenings pertaining to the theme will seek to foster discussion and debate on the purposefully broad topic.

The CCSRE serves as a facilitator of collaboration, drawing upon the College's strengths in international studies, environmental studies and language and communication to "support critical inquiry on race, ethnicity and diversity," according to the CCSRE mission statement.

A film series that is in keeping with the theme will be held during the fall semester and a symposium will be planned during the spring.

"The Life Stories oral history project will continue, as will the working scholars group, race and ethnicity reading group, collaboration with PALANA and focused work on teaching and learning about race and ethnicity," wrote Associate Professor of American Studies and CCSRE Director Susan Burch in an email.

CCSRE programming is governed by a director, a steering committee made up of faculty and a student advisory board, the members of which are determined by nominations from current board members. Steering committee members serve two-year terms and student advisory board members serve one-year terms. Representatives from the PALANA House, Student Government Association diversity committee and a

first-year student are guaranteed positions on the Student Advisory Board.

"[The CCSRE tries to] recruit students from across the College community," wrote Burch. "Serving on the board involves a serious commitment. Our members play an active role in program development, create and facilitate their own events and offer valuable feedback on the issues students are interested in learning."

The upcoming academic year will bring several changes to the steering committee, as Dean of Faculty and Rehnquist Professor of American History and Culture Jim Ralph and Assistant Professor of Japanese Studies Linda White will be on leave, leaving openings on the committee.

The CCSRE will be collaborating with a variety of academic departments, student organizations and institutions such as the University of Vermont and Swarthmore College to create programming for the upcoming year. The CCSRE has invited faculty from the University of Vermont to participate in roundtable discussions and symposia and will be sending faculty to workshops focused on race and ethnicity as a means of incorporating such themes more fully into courses, as was done last year.

"Building our programs around an annual theme helps us deepen and sustain critical engagements with race and ethnicity," wrote Burch, noting that the subject of immigration had drawn interest during the planning phase of next year's theme. "[We wanted to] imagine the themes broadly, stretching across our curriculum and disciplines, as well as geographical locations and time periods."

# Symposium hopes to build on previous successes



DAISY ZHUO

The symposium will feature student performances, lectures, and poster presentations. Below, participants in the 2011 symposium presented their research in the Great Hall.

## CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

never know that the kid you're discussing the election with at Proctor is working on an independent neuroscience lab or a book of poetry, she continued. The symposium's a great chance to celebrate the end of the year at Middlebury by acknowledging that diversity of disciplines and interests."

Julia Sisson '12 will be presenting her thesis "Hope Gives Birth to Courage: The Agency of Female Characters in the Films of Ousmane Sembène" on Saturday.

"I decided to present because it seemed like a nice opportunity to showcase this work to which I had devoted so much time," Sisson wrote in an email. "I think it will be an exciting experience filled with lots of energy, and one to look forward to with so many other talented presenters and compelling works."

"From the process of reading all those proposals I do feel like spring symposium is

not a rigid and boring academic symposium, but rather a place to spark [conversation and intellectual thought]," said advisory board member Jiayi Zhu '14.

The Spring Student Symposium aims to unite the campus in an effort to gain an appreciation and understanding of the different interests and accomplishments of students.

"This is the only time that you will not be graded, but you will be applauded for your academic interests," McShane said. "So it really is celebratory as opposed to a competitive type of situation."

The symposium will commence on Thursday, April 19 from 7-10 p.m. at the Mahaney Center for the Arts. Student Presentations will be held in Bicentennial Hall and the Johnson Memorial Building from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. on April 20. A concluding reception will be held the same evening at the Mahaney Center for the Arts, beginning at 8 p.m.

# Coup eliminates Mali study opportunity

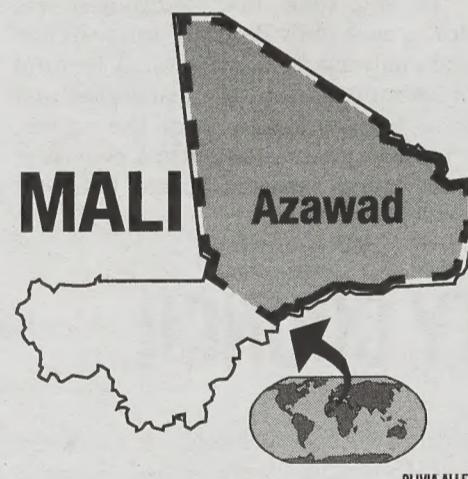
By Ben Anderson

On March 22, a military coup forced the School for International Training (SIT) program in Mali to close, sending the three Middlebury students there home months early. The program in the West African country will not run next year, either, leaving sophomores scrambling for alternatives.

The coup came as a surprise to many, as Mali has long been heralded as a rare example of durable democratic rule on the continent. Violence began months ago as Tuareg rebels returned, well-armed, from fighting behind former Libyan dictator Colonel Muammar el-Qaddafi, to continue their fight for independence.

The coup itself, however, was orchestrated by state forces. Frustrated with President Amadou Toumani Touré's inability to defeat the guerrilla movement, on March 21 the Malian military ousted the democratically-elected leader from office. The military has since ceded power to an interim civil president until free elections can be held.

The Tuareg rebel movement, meanwhile, has declared independence in



OLIVIA ALLEN

Tuareg rebels in control of northern Mali have declared independence, calling their new country "Azawad."

"Azawad," the northern region of the country it currently controls.

Nicole Hoesterey '13 was studying gender, community and the environment in Mali with SIT at the time of the rebellion.

"It was really hard to get accurate information at the time because the Western news sources were so obviously ex-

aggerated," she said, and Malian news was not broadcast in English.

"I actually drove through Bamako that day and didn't really see much at all," she said. "I remember seeing tanks that morning but that was about it."

Hoesterey said that SIT paid for change fees but only covered part of the cost of new airline flights back to the U.S. The students took the earliest flights out of Mali they could, leaving Bamako a week after the coup.

The students who were studying in Mali at the time of the coup will be given one credit from Winter Term and three of the four academic credits for the Spring Semester. Students can earn the fifth credit with an independent project.

Andie Tibbetts '14 was planning to study in Mali next fall before the program was cancelled. Tibbetts is attempting to study with SIT in Cameroon, instead, but the College has recently opened a school there.

"I chose to go to Cameroon with SIT instead of Mali," Tibbetts said, "because its course best fit my interests. However, now ... I have to defend my decision to choose SIT over the Middlebury school."

The College prefers that students study at Middlebury-C.V. Starr schools, and only sends students with outside programs when Middlebury does not already have a program established in the student's preferred country.

Middlebury has been sending students abroad with SIT for over 20 years and to over 40 countries. SIT, which is a part of World Learning, has run undergraduate study abroad programs for over 50 years and was one of the earliest programs in Africa.

"Student safety and security are paramount to SIT," wrote World Learning's Director of Communications Laura Ingalls in an email. "This decision [to cancel the program] is temporary and SIT will re-open in Mali to resume academically-rich undergraduate programs when conditions permit."

Assistant Director of Off-Campus Study Stacey Thebodo remains confident in the program.

"We know that SIT is well-experienced in dealing with safety issues and political instability," she said "so we are confident they will make decisions with students' best interests in mind."

## PUBLIC SAFETY LOG APRIL 1-8, 2012

DATE	TIME	INCIDENT	DESCRIPTION	LOCATION	DISPOSITION
4/02/12	6:50 a.m.	Vandalism	Magic marker used on walls	McCullough	Referred to DOC and Commons Deans
4/03/12	2:00 p.m.	Hit and Run	Collision	E Lot	Referred to DOC, Commons Deans, MPD
4/07/12	1:42 a.m.	Vandalism	1st floor vending machine	Pearsons	Referred to DOC and Commons Deans
4/07/12	11:45 p.m.	Assault/Battery	Student involved in fight	Meeker House	Referred to DOC and Commons Deans
4/07/12	4:30 p.m.	Property Found	Jacket	Golf Course Road	Referred to DOC and Commons Deans
4/08/12	2:30 a.m.	Vandalism	Basement	Palmer	Referred to DOC and Commons Deans
4/09/12	8:58 a.m.	Vandalism	Vending machine	Hepburn	Referred to DOC and Commons Deans

The Department of Public Safety reported giving 14 alcohol citations between 4/1/2012 and 4/08/2012.

## COLLEGE SHORTS

**NEWS FROM ACROSS THE NATION IS THE NATION**

COMPILED BY SALENA CASHA

### Alumnus kills seven, wounds three at California University

On the morning of April 3, a 43-year-old alumnus of Oikos University shot and killed seven students and wounded three more at the Oakland, Calif., campus. Witnesses say that the gunman, One L. Goh, lined everyone in a classroom up against a wall and opened fire. He then fled the campus, but soon stopped at a grocery store where he confessed to employees and turned himself over to the police.

Oikos is a small religious unaccredited institution in Oakland that caters mainly to Koreans and Korean-Americans, and provides most students with visas to study in the states. Police are still investigating Goh's motive.

— UWIRE

### Business school exam to see major changes

The GMAT will undergo changes starting June 5 in order to make the screening process for graduate business school admissions more selective. A new "integrated reasoning" section will be added to the GMAT's pre-existing writing, quantitative and verbal sections.

The additional section will include 12 questions to be completed in 30 minutes, testing prospective business students' abilities to analyze information from multiple sources and develop strategies based on given data. Featuring four new question types, the new section will replace the AWA Analysis of an Issue essay. Instead of two AWA essays, students will be asked to complete an Analysis of an Argument essay. Students will receive a separate score for the new section from the verbal and quantitative segments. Neither the exam length nor the standard for total score will be changed.

— GMAT

### Student develops online student/professor forum

Pooja Sankar, a recent graduate of Stanford University's M.B.A. program, has founded a start-up initiative to provide students with faster access to professor aid via the internet. Dubbed Piazza, the initiative is a new online study-hall program where students can use forums to solicit help from professors and teaching assistants.

The site offers a more direct and efficient method for study help than emailing professors or using sites like Cramster.com. The website is self-updating as new questions and answers are uploaded. Each professor creates a forum for their course and invites their students to join. There, topics can be posted and responded to, facilitating discussion between professors and students. Sankar first came up with the idea while earning her computer science undergraduate degree at the Indian Institute of Technology.

— The New York Times

# LIS solves MiddFiles glitch

By Emily Singer

Early last week, the campus server MiddFiles experienced multiple outages. Library and Information Services (LIS) discovered the root of the outages on Wednesday, April 4, and took the system down over the weekend to resolve the problems. MiddFiles was up and running again by 11:45 a.m. on April 8.

MiddFiles is a Windows-based file server system that allows for connection from many different operating systems, yet runs most smoothly with Windows. The server hosts 15.4 million different files uploaded from a range of sectors on campus, including administrative services, student organizations, faculty and staff life and student course-related material.

Malfunctions began on Monday, April 2, and an email was sent on Tuesday, April 3, to notify students that LIS was looking into the problems. A second email was sent on April 4, stating that MiddFiles connections for Windows were up and running, but those with Mac operating systems were still experiencing problems.

On Wednesday, April 4, LIS made an off-line copy of MiddFiles as a means of discovering the source of the problems. The length of time it would take to resolve the issue had yet to be determined due to the previously unknown number of files on the server. LIS staff opted to wait until the weekend to take the server down and fully resolve the problem, as shutting MiddFiles down midweek would have posed an enormous inconvenience to all who needed access to the server's files, said to Associate Dean of LIS Carol Peddie.

The outages stemmed from a Mac computer performing a high input/output (I/O) process on the MiddFiles server. While Windows-based MiddFiles can accommodate Apple operating systems, the two are not always fully compatible.

"Unfortunately, Apple operating systems do not always play nice with Win-

dows environments," Peddie explained. "In this case, a process that had high intensity I/O that was coming from a Mac produced some corrupted files and permissions on the shared folder. When the process tried to write, or when someone tried to access files in that folder or another folder that nested within it, it created more corruption." Peddie added that there is often no concrete explanation or reason behind the corruption of the initial file.

Each time a person attempted to access the corrupted file or files within its folder, the MiddFiles system was disrupted.

"I'm not going to target out where they [the corrupted files] came from, but they were specified to one area so that we could find the people that were using them, speak with them and arrange for something else so that they could go on with the business that they were doing," Peddie said. "It wasn't anything suspicious or malicious. It was honest business, it just happened that it was a very intensive I/O process."

With each system disruption, the corruption spread to more files. The only way to repair the files and the system as a whole was to take it offline so that there was nobody using the system.

An email was sent to students at 1 p.m. on April 6 to inform them that the MiddFiles server would be taken offline later that afternoon, suggesting that students save any necessary files to their personal computers. The precise length of time that MiddFiles would be down was unknown due to the massive volume of information contained within the system, but it was predicted to be back up by noon on Sunday, April 8.

In the time that MiddFiles was down, each individual file was searched and analyzed for corruption. A handful of corrupted files were discovered and have been removed from the server, restored and are housed in a new location. Peddie reported that no data was

lost during the process.

Students received an email at 11:45 a.m. on April 8 announcing that MiddFiles was successfully running again.

#### MOVING FORWARD

LIS has no way of being aware of all processes running on MiddFiles, but the recent debacle with the corrupted files has alerted LIS to the "types of things that live on MiddFiles," Peddie explained.

LIS currently has multiple live and back-up copies of MiddFiles data and server contents, but in the event of data corruption, even back-up copies become high-risk. Different components of the server are backed up on a daily and weekly basis, but in the event of a complete server crash, it would take several days to restore MiddFiles due to its size.

"It's not necessarily the best practice to have everything in one place, even though it's easy for users," said Peddie. "We'll want to reconsider the 'all eggs in one basket' approach to file storage," alluding to the fact that MiddFiles houses information from virtually all College departments and business.

LIS will be "re-architecting" MiddFiles, creating separate units of storage for different administrative functions and realms of College life. The process will be finished by this fall, though Peddie hopes to push for a summer completion date.

"This [re-architecting] could minimize campus-wide disruptions and have faster recovery times," said Peddie. "We'll want to thoughtfully map out what is best for the College, which may have an impact on the ease of use." LIS may have to reeducate users on how to find data after the separation process has been completed.

Additionally, future MiddFiles policies may alter current policy and put an expiration date on files. Removing older files, Peddie said, could help the system run more smoothly and with greater stability.

LIS will continue to study this latest round of corrupted files to determine how the corruption spread in the hopes of learning how to discover and fix corrupted files in the future — before problems become widespread.

## COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Alcohol Task Force updates Council

By Isabelle Dietz

In their meeting on April 2, the Community Council hosted Vice President for Finance and Treasurer Patrick Norton along with SGA Treasurer and Finance Committee Chair Scott Klenet.

Both Norton and Klenet gave a brief overview of the College's finances before responding to questions.

Klenet explained that the Student Government Association (SGA) receives about \$930,000 from the Student Activities fee and another \$20,000 from student parking fees. They then distribute this money between student organizations and activities.

"We're trying to be as transparent as possible," he said.

Norton gave a brief overview of his time as Chair of the Budget Oversight Committee, formed in 2008 at the start of the recession by President of the College Ronald D. Liebowitz to oversee cost cutting by the College.

"It's a significant budget," said Norton. "We also have significant assets ... We have assets, but a lot of that wealth has commitments attached to it."

Responses from the Council ranged from congratulatory to questioning.

Most of the council members' questions and comments were aimed towards Norton. Some were impressed that the College was able to reduce staffing by 10 percent across the board without layoffs, protect the academic program and maintain a student/faculty ratio of 9:1. Other members also acknowledged the accomplishment of a continually high yield on the College's endowment despite recent criticism regarding the transparency of where the money is invested.

Others wondered about the Master Plan for the College and the new works that are being planned in the future. The Council also discussed the attitude of the College as a community towards financing and budgeting.

In their April 10 meeting, the Council heard and discussed an update from the Alcohol Task Force. Dean of Students and Assistant Professor of the History of Art and Architecture Katy Smith Abbott gave the update and was joined by other members of the Task Force. Abbott is the co-chair of the Alcohol Task Force.

"It is a really interesting, wonderful group of people. Everyone's worked really hard," said Abbott.

She explained that the Task Force can only make recommendations on policy changes, and cannot actually change the policies themselves. The Task Force's recommendations are given to Liebowitz, who takes them into consideration before making the final decision. Currently, the Task Force plans to have its final recommendations ready by the end of the spring semester.

So far, the Task Force has considered several different solutions, such as an Alcoholics Anonymous group on campus and stiffer penalties for hard alcohol in first-year residences.

Abbott stressed that the Task Force is trying to find creative solutions to many of the drinking related issues that often arise. One idea has been aiding first-year students to facilitate non-drinking activities.

"One of the things we've talked about a lot is how to make that information [regarding non-drinking activities] available to students," Abbott said.

Council members had several suggestions and questions for the Task Force, such as who pays for student visits to the Emergency Room and whether Vermont might lower its drinking age.

The Middlebury Campus

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# LOCAL

The Middlebury Campus

Folino's Pizza  
serves up woodfire  
pizza in Shelburne  
Page 7



## Access to slaughterhouses allows Vt. meat production to stay local

By Elaine Dellinger

**D**uring the past few months the state of Vermont has seen two developments for the local meat industry: the purchase of a mobile poultry-processing unit by local poultry farmers Lila Bennett and David Robb of Tangletown Farms in Middlesex, Vt. and a proposal for a new slaughterhouse here in Middlebury, Vt.

Earlier this year Bennett and Robb purchased the mobile poultry-processing unit from the state of Vermont in an auction after the state decided to sell the unit. Designed and built in 2008, the unit cost the State of Vermont and the Castanea Foundation \$93,000 and is unique in that it allows farmers to process poultry under state inspection right on the farm. The mobile processing unit allows Vermont farmers to process the poultry themselves while meeting state inspection standards and allows them to avoid sending the birds to be processed at a larger facility, a process that can be expensive and time-consuming.

For the past three years, the state has leased the unit to a private operator. During that time it has served 30 farmers, and last year it processed 18,000 birds. In 2011 the private operator decided not to renew the lease, so in January of this year the state auctioned off the unit to Bennett and Robb for \$61,000, about two-thirds the original cost of the unit.

The purchase promises to be beneficial to Bennett and Robb and also ensures that the unit will continue to benefit the Vermont community.

The mobile processing unit is a tremendous resource for livestock farmers because it decentralizes meat processing, allowing farmers who may otherwise have problems getting their livestock to an inspected facility, to have their poultry processing done on site (and therefore be able to sell it legally)," said Jesse McEntee, a visiting professor at Middlebury who taught Food Geographies this past Winter Term.

"It was unfortunate that the state did not take a stronger leadership role in ensuring its continuation, but hopefully the new owners will utilize it to its fullest potential," said McEntee.

Robb and Bennett are enthusiastic about the purchase for their own business and for the benefits that the unit will continue to provide for the community.

"We will be able to process all of our birds with an inspector present," said Bennett. "The community also benefits by having the unit stay in Vermont; it is one of only two in the state that do custom processing."

The Vermont Livestock slaughterhouse operation, based in Ferrisburgh, Vt., is also stirring up interest for local meat producers. It is currently seeking permission to expand its operation with a new 11,442 sq. ft. slaughterhouse facility to be located in Middlebury's industrial park.

If the proposal is approved, the slaughterhouse will prove to

be beneficial for local meat producers and may also help work toward a more sustainable local food system.

"There is a lot of political support and interest for the development of a sustainable food system in Vermont — like the Farm to Plate Strategic Plan — as well as a strong commitment to the working landscape," said McEntee. "Part of achieving this resilient, local and sustainable food system is embracing all parts of the food chain, from production to consumption. Right now, the state's limited slaughter capacity is hindering the ability

to meet these goals, therefore creating an additional obstacle that farmers need to overcome," said McEntee.

The new facility would be an important stride toward providing for the needs of local meat

producers.

"The larger proposed facility would allow for higher slaughter capacity resulting in ... economic development opportunities for farmers, which in turn could have a number of ripple effects down the road such as making farming more affordable, putting less pressure on land for development, and reducing the price of locally grown meat," said McEntee.

While both of these developments are promising for the local Vermont meat production industry, both McEntee and Bennett emphasize the need for more meat processing facilities in the state.

"An animal's death is just as

important as its life," said Bennett. "Creating good options for farmers can help ensure that local meat being raised can also be killed, processed and packaged with utmost care."

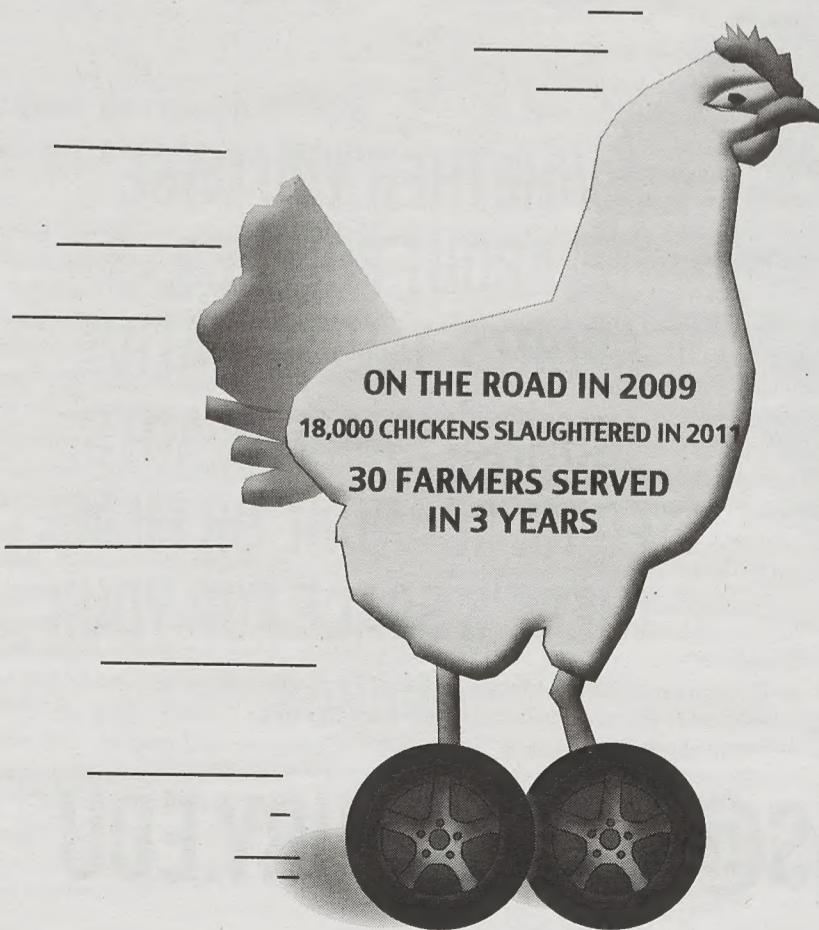
"My primary hope [for the Vermont meat processing industry] is that Vermont will have adequate meat processing capacity, and that this can be achieved in a way that benefits farmers, processors, consumers, and the communities in which they are located," said McEntee. "Slaughterhouses serve a vital function; if we want Vermont agriculture to be a viable industry, then we need high quality slaughterhouses that treat animals humanely and that are willing to work with surrounding communities and institutions," said McEntee.

McEntee also emphasizes that Vermont Livestock, the operation looking into building a new facility in Middlebury, is one such high quality slaughterhouse operation.

"Vermont Livestock and Slaughter is an extremely well-run facility that prioritizes humane treatment of animals," said McEntee.

While Bennett also recognizes the need for adequate meat processing capacity in Vermont, she stresses the importance of keeping the facilities to a smaller scale.

"I hope that the processing industry [in Vermont] stays on a small, humane scale," said Bennett. "We do need more facilities as scheduling is so difficult as it is, but it does not mean we should have large capacity, impersonal factories cranking out hot dogs," said Bennett.



COURTESY

Lila Bennett and David Robb of Tangletown Farm, pictured with their children, purchased the mobile poultry-processing unit this year.

# Local pizza fires up customers

By Molly Talbert

If you're looking for an adventure but don't have time for a long drive, try Folino's Pizza in Shelburne, Vt. Right off of Route 7 across from Shelburne Vineyards, Folino's is easy to spot in a new barn-like building that they share with a new brewery, Fiddlehead Brewery.

John and Buddy Koerner, a father-son duo from Charlotte, started Folino's, which opened just a few weeks ago.

"John built a brick oven at his house in 2002 to experiment with bread," Sy Janousek, Buddy's girlfriend who runs the register, explained in an email. "After [John] played around with making bread, he started experimenting on making pizzas ... They would have pizza parties for birthdays and special occasions and have family and friends over pretty often. So essentially, he has turned his hobby into a business."

The restaurant is casual and has a very open feel to it, with high ceilings and an uncluttered floor. The kitchen is exposed and the wood fire oven, which cooks pizzas in three minutes, looms behind the register, radiating dim light and heat. There are a few smaller tables that seat four, a couple of tall tables without stools, and one long communal table. To add a little green to the room, a row of tulips was planted in a box underneath the register, creating an interesting contrast between the otherwise industrial feel. Although Folino's doesn't serve alcohol, it is BYOB, and Fiddlehead is open for dinner and sells growlers for customers to drink with their pizza.

The service is good and the pizzas are delicious and come out promptly. The menu is fairly creative and the food is reasonably priced, especially if you're planning on sharing a pizza with a friend. Being able to bring your own alcohol also helps make eating at Folino's less expensive.

"It would be a very nice place to go on a date," said Amy Prescott '12, who

ate at Folino's a couple weeks ago.

"John has owned this property where Folino's and Fiddlehead now stand for about six years," said Janousek about Folino's location. "John and Buddy took down an old building that was here last spring and started constructing this new one. It took about a year to finish the construction due to the fact that they did a lot of the work themselves. In the end, it was very well worth it as they were able to design a lot of what you see today day by day."

"Our staff is a ridiculous crew of friends and family and we all have a really good time working with each other," said Janousek, of the people who are helping run the new restaurant. "We have John stretching the dough and Buddy cooking the pizzas. We also have Buddy's best friend, Nick Hamel, building pizzas and Buddy's mom and her best friend in the back doing dishes, prepping and making salads."

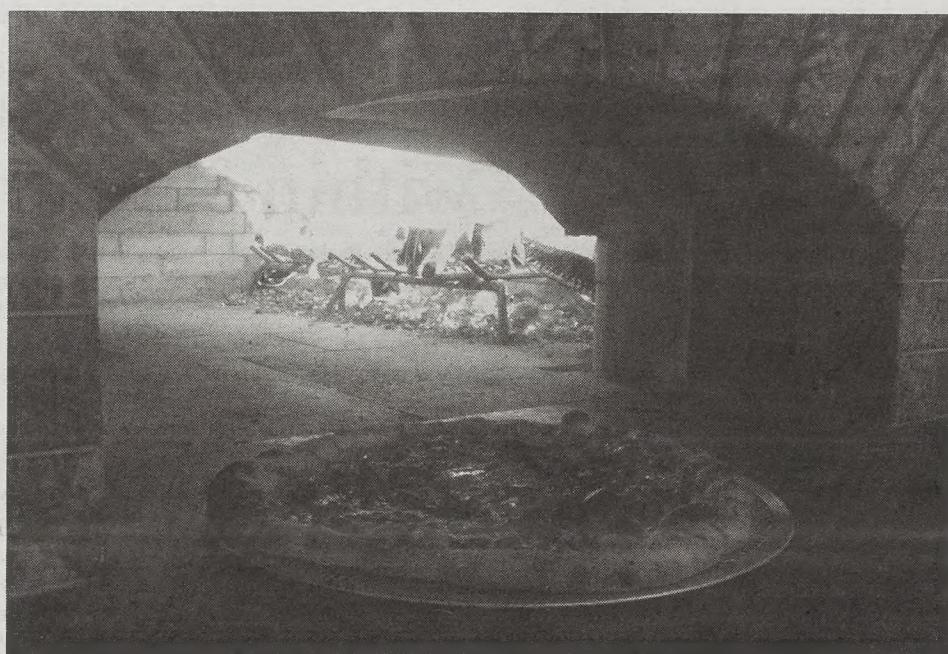
One aspect of the restaurant that

is distinctly different from any other is the "certifa-sticks" they have neatly piled next to the register. The sticks are about an inch in diameter, made of elm, and have hearts painted on either end. Costing \$20, half of that money goes to support the 52 Kids Foundation, a non-profit started by Buddy's brother, Jagger Koerner.

The 52 Kids Foundation is based in Uganda and, according to their website, their mission is to "teach Ugandan children to live positively without aid."

The Foundation focuses "on three 'E's that have been proven to make dramatic enduring changes in peoples' lives: Education, Empowerment, and Employment."

Through the "certifa-stick" program as well as the strong presence of family and friends in the business, it is clear that "it's definitely a close knit group of people trying to get this business up and running," as Janousek said.



COURTESY

Folino's Pizza, in Shelburne, is cooked in a brick oven built by owner John Koerner.

# Vt. Yankee remains open despite protests

By Stephanie Roush

When the Vermont Senate voted to decommission the Vermont Yankee nuclear plant, a group of Middlebury students saw a unique opportunity to make a change in the way Vermont gets its energy. The Vermont Yankee nuclear plant, located in Brattleboro, provides about a third of Vermont's energy.

When Abigail Borah '13 and other members of the Sunday Night Group heard of plans to shut the plant down, they were faced with an opportunity "to raise the salience of clean energy issues in Vermont, empower youth participation in the political process, create a strong network of youth environmentalists, and reinforce Vermont's position as a clean energy leader," said Borah.

The Vermont Yankee plant is owned by Entergy, a New Orleans-based energy company. According to Entergy's website, the plant has had its release extended to 2032 by the Nuclear Regulatory Commission because it wasn't within the senate's jurisdiction to close the plant. With the problem-filled history of the plant, many Vermonters worry that if a large-scale natural disaster were to sweep through Vermont they could be faced with the fear of radiation and the need to evacuate the area surrounding the plant, similar to the situation of Fukushima in Japan after last spring's earthquake.

"Closing Vermont Yankee will open new opportunities for local renewable

energy sources including wind, solar, biomass and micro-hydro power," said Borah, who sees the closing of the plant as a necessary step toward carbon neutrality. If Vermont Yankee were to close, it would create more green jobs in Vermont through the pursuit of more sustainable energy sources.

The Vermont Public Interest Research Group (VPIRG) estimates that Vermont residents would spend 47-50 percent less in the next 20 years on their energy bills if the plant were to be decommissioned, while the Entergy website claims that "continued operation [of the plant] will result in over \$2 billion in additional income for the residents of Windham County and the state of Vermont."

Yet, the amount of radioactive waste generated by the plant is enough to make many second-guess any of its potential benefits for the Vermont community. VPIRG estimates that it would cost over \$1 billion to clean up the radioactive waste being dumped into the Connecticut River by the plant that the plant pays to have contained each year.

Because the plant was scheduled to close in March 2012, it is regaining the media's interest in Vermont, due mostly to the protest that took place on March 22. Over 1,000 protesters gathered in a park near the plant and then marched together toward the plant. Over 130 people were arrested. All the arrests were peaceful and there seemed to be understanding with law enforcement.

The scene of the protest was one of

hope for those against the plant's continuance. Many people dressed up and held signs, but the most important part was the sheer number of local citizens gathering together to show their government and community that this is an issue important enough to be arrested for.

When asked if she sees protesting as a viable way to incite change, Borah said, "we need to speak with our voices, our dollars, and our votes."

She continued by saying that "money speaks, but people can collectively speak louder if we are able to speak out for our interests," and that protesting remains one of the most effective ways to do this.

For these reasons Borah helped co-found the Middlebury student campaign "Race to Replace." The campaign has been at many clean energy events in Vermont, appealing especially to young people who have the power to sway the vote. The Race to Replace website, racetoreplace.org, features photos of countless Vermont residents holding signs emblazoned with the phrase "I'm voting for clean energy."

"Clean energy in Vermont means good jobs, clean water and air, and a livable climate for the Green Mountain State," said Borah, reaffirming the mission of Race to Replace while also pointing to the absolute necessity of sustainable power sources.

Vermont Yankee is an important issue in the current political climate of Vermont and one that could drastically affect the future of a state known for its progressive environmental policy.

# LOCAL 24

## LOCAL LOWDOWN

### CHURCH RUMMAGE SALE

*Looking to expand your thrifting beyond Neat Repeats? Head to North Ferrisburgh for a rummage sale at the Methodist church. Find a variety of goodies from a new ironic Hawaiian shirt that likely belonged to an 80-year-old man to the lamp you need to replace the fluorescent lights in your dorm room. If you would like to donate items, call (802) 377-9997.*

APRIL 12-14, 9 A.M. - 4 P.M.

### COMMUNITY ART SHOW RECEPTION

*Art, good company, delicious food and entertaining live music at the annual event at Art on Main in Bristol that celebrates the creative work of the community. Open to all people of all ages who are artists or art lovers. Call (802) 453-4032 or info@arttonmain.net for more information.*

APRIL 13, 5 P.M. - 7 P.M.

### OTTER CREEK MUD RUN 5K

*Has the recent warm weather inspired you to run? Show off your speed at the second annual Otter Creek Mud Run 5k. Run around Otter View Park, Twilight Hall and along Otter Creek for a scenic Saturday morning. After you finish your run, stick around for the Tot Trot and see adorable children run too. Registration costs \$30 for adults, \$15 for students, and \$8 for the Tot Trot. Proceeds benefit the Otter Creek Child Center. You can register at www.active.com or by emailing occc-linda@myfairpoint.net. Race day registration starts at 7:30 a.m. at the Otter Creek Child Center, where the race will begin and end. Participants receive a recovery bag with goodies from local businesses, including Champlain Orchards and Comfort Cookies, Inc.*

APRIL 14, 8:30 A.M. - 10:30 A.M.

### BAKE AND SOUP SALE

*Tired of dining hall food and craving some homemade goods? Head on over to the East Middlebury United Methodist Church for some homemade pies, breads, cakes, doughnuts, cookies, baked beans, chili, soups, and chowders. Should be a delicious study break.*

APRIL 14, 9 A.M. - 1 P.M.

### ALL-YOU-CAN-EAT PANCAKE BREAKFAST

*Need to carbo-load after a long weekend of homework? The Addison Volunteer Fire Department is hosting a pancake breakfast to raise funds to buy new equipment. There will be plain and blueberry pancakes, sausage, bacon, home fries, coffee, hot chocolate and orange juice. \$6 for adults and \$4 for children under 12. For more information call (802) 759-2237.*

APRIL 15, 7 A.M. - 11 A.M.

### "YOU WANTED TO BE A FARMER" SCREENING

*For an informative documentary on farm policy and the effect it has on small farmers, drive up to the Ripton Church for a screening of "You Wanted to be a Farmer," sponsored by Rural Vermont. This is part of a series of screenings across the state to teach people about the challenges faced by small farmers. For more information, call (802) 223-7222 or email shelby@ruralvermont.org.*

APRIL 17, 7 P.M. - 9

# OPINIONS

The Middlebury Campus

## EDITORIAL

This week, MCAB announced that it will be bringing former New York governor Eliot Spitzer to campus on Thursday, April 26, to address a crowd in Mead Chapel. Spitzer, who served as New York Attorney General for eight years prior to being elected as governor, will be speaking about financial regulation and policing Wall Street.

As Attorney General, Spitzer actively prosecuted white collar crime, from computer chip price fixing to malicious

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## Hosting Spitzer

This week, MCAB announced that it will be bringing former New York governor Eliot Spitzer to campus on Thursday, April 26, to address a crowd in Mead Chapel. Spitzer, who served as New York Attorney General for eight years prior to being elected as governor, will be speaking about financial regulation and policing Wall Street.

As Attorney General, Spitzer actively prosecuted white collar crime, from computer chip price fixing to malicious

lending practices. He pursued American International Group for fraud, sued former chairman of the New York Stock Exchange Richard Grasso, and has fought against Internet fraud and for environmental protection. The man is, beyond a doubt, eminently qualified to speak about the challenges associated with policing Wall Street and white collar crime. Anyone on campus who is remotely interested in finance would be foolish to miss out on an opportunity to hear the thoughts of one of our country's foremost experts on the topic. We applaud MCAB for bringing a highly relevant and high-profile speaker to campus.

But as anyone knows, Spitzer is far from an uncontroversial figure. Indeed, MCAB's stated goal in bringing Spitzer is to help spark debate among students around a variety of issues. Politically, he was a liberal-minded Attorney General and a Democratic governor — his stances on financial regulation are not apolitical, and should not be treated as such. We expect that conservatives on campus will challenge his ideas, both privately, in the weeks leading up to the talk, and publicly,

after the talk itself. It would be a shame if the audience for the talk was comprised only of students who conform to Spitzer's politics — talks such as these are one of the best opportunities that we have, as a community, to open a dialogue about an extremely important and timely topic. This will not happen unless diverse perspectives are present and ready to raise their voices. Everyone — liberals, conservatives and everyone in between — will get more out of the talk if this dialogue and debate occurs.

Spitzer is also controversial for another reason — the scandal that led him to resign as governor in 2008. This controversy raises important and interesting questions about the distinction between public and private life, and while this will not likely be touched on by Spitzer in his talk, we have little doubt that it will be on the minds of many in the audience. We truly appreciate that Spitzer has agreed to host an open Q&A session following his talk, knowing full well that he may have to field questions relating to the scandal that chased him out of office. While we acknowledge the importance of

delving into the role that private life often plays for those in public office, we also caution those in attendance to not abuse Spitzer's openness to questions. When posing questions, we should be mindful of our tone and our responsibility to make the most out of the opportunity his presence presents. In 2008, the media thoroughly trounced Spitzer. Would it be productive to engage in that discourse again? If the College hopes to continue attracting prestigious and provocative speakers to campus, it is our responsibility to find a respectful way to handle the controversy associated with them when they come.

Spitzer is exactly the kind of speaker Middlebury should be bringing to campus. Whether or not you agree with his politics — whether or not you place more importance on his public service or his private life — we all have a lot to learn from someone who has gone out there and fought for what he believes in. We look forward to the ensuing dialogue about his presence on campus, and hope that the debate continues thoughtfully and respectfully on April 26.

## Fighting bias by finding it within ourselves

On March 20, I went to a talk given by Dennis Parker '77, the director of the ACLU's Racial Justice Program. Parker, who is a Middlebury alum and the father of one of my best friends here, spoke about implicit bias.

### NOTES FROM THE DESK

Carina Guiterman '13  
is from Bethesda, Md.

Colonel Reb?).

To be honest, I went to the talk because it was given by my best friend's dad. The topic sounded really interesting, but it didn't seem very much related to me. In my mind, bias, whether implicit or explicit, is associated with racism, and racism is associated with the KKK, ignorant a\*\*holes and maybe some frat bros at Ole Miss (go

Colonel Reb?).

But Mr. Parker's talk made me realize that bias is something most of us grapple with without even knowing it. He cited a Harvard-developed test, called the Implicit Association Test (IAT) that measures levels of implicit bias among test-takers. Unfortunately, the test results have shown that most participants hold some level of bias. Mr. Parker himself disclosed that the test revealed that he is slightly biased in favor of Caucasians.

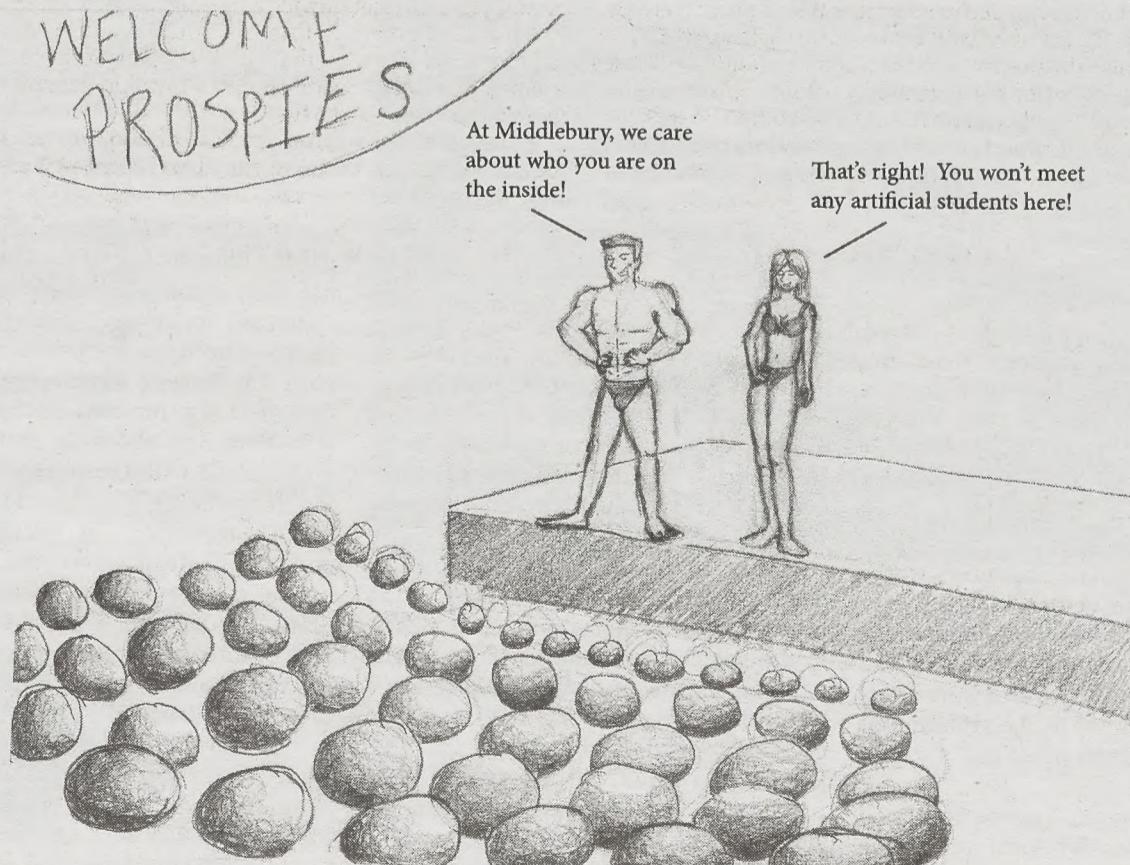
After hearing Mr. Parker speak, I knew that I wanted to take the test, so a few days ago I finally did. My result: as with the majority of participants, the test revealed that I hold a slightly more favorable bias toward white people than toward African-Americans.

As soon as I saw my results, I immediately closed out of the Internet window, worried that someone sitting behind me at the library would see. To be extra cautious, I even cleared my Internet history. But then something Mr. Parker said struck me: if we are to truly confront our bias, we must train ourselves to

do so. And we cannot train ourselves if we don't admit that, as awful as it may sound, we may be part of the problem. So that's why I'm writing this today; I am from a liberal family. I have liberal values. My best friend here is black. My mom saw the cultural merits of enrolling me in hip-hop dance class (get at me, Riddim) instead of the ballroom dancing class that most of my friends took. The American Girl doll I had as a kid was Addie, the escaped slave. I thought Whoopi Goldberg's character in "Carina Carina" was based on me. But, according to this test, I am slightly biased. And some of you may be, too.

I wish I could say I have some brilliant solution to immediately eradicate all implicit bias. All I know is that we have no hope at overcoming bias if we fail to acknowledge the possibility of being biased ourselves. I'm not saying you should go around shouting your bias at the top of your lungs. But at least don't write off the problem as having nothing to do with you, just as I did. Many people argue that we live in a "post-racial" society, pointing to the fact that we are led by a black president.

But cases such as the Trayvon Martin tragedy illustrate that the United States is far from post-racial. I'm not likening any of us to George Zimmerman. I'm not even saying that all of you are probably biased. And I'm not trying to spout the typical "all white people are racist" line; I don't think that's true. But when future stories of prejudice and bias reach the headlines, as they undoubtedly will, or when you next witness an act of prejudice, don't write off the problem as someone else's. We all must work together to overcome implicit bias. Bias will not be eradicated by a top-down approach; instead, we must work to eradicate it at the individual level. The first step to do so is to look within ourselves.



## We've always been at war with East Asia

After World War II, do you think that Americans could point to the day when the Soviet Union switched from ally of convenience to sworn adversary? A decade from now, will we be able to point to the day when our Cold War with China began? Americans need a scapegoat for everything, and China is the perfect enemy for the anemic economic recovery of today. As America stagnates at the top of the world stage, China rises. As American incomes stay flat, those in China skyrocket. Their students are excelling — although

they only report scores from Hong Kong and Shanghai — as ours fail to meet basic national standards. And, of course, they're stealing our jobs!

Listening to our nation's leaders makes it seem as though we've already begun a Cold War with China. *The New York Times* front page last Sunday morning portrayed Chinese investment in struggling economies throughout Latin America and the Caribbean as something vaguely sinister. *The Economist* ran an issue last week with a cover decorated by an ominous-looking Chinese submarine and a headline about "China's Military Rise." Never mind that they spend a quarter of what we do on their military. Never mind that their submarines are apparently so far behind ours that we can track them from outer space. And never mind our numerous and ongoing military interventions in the Middle East — in a speech last week, Secretary of Defense Leon Panetta focused primarily on China. America must always be a Pacific power, he said, and clearly he wasn't talking about New Zealand.

China makes a better ideological opponent for the 21st century than Iran — they're more believable as a dangerous enemy. Their government does not respect the types of rights that should be fundamental to all people: freedom of speech, of the press, of religion and of assembly — to name a few big ones. As a response to protests, they've closed off Western Tibet; we have no idea what atrocities they could

be committing there. Their stance on Taiwan and their support for the North Korean regime undermine the interests of democracy. And, in some ways, having them as a rival could benefit America. When the Soviet Union beat us and put Sputnik into orbit, it encouraged more Americans to study science and math. The interstate highway system evolved out of defense concerns. A rivalry with China could inspire us to improve our education and infrastructure — two areas in much need of improvement.

But we must take care to ensure that such a rivalry doesn't instead lead to increased military spending and intervention in Asia, as the Cold War with the Soviet Union did. China may be a large and powerful nation, but their military poses little threat to us. They lack a navy large enough to invade Taiwan. While we have eleven aircraft carrier groups, they have just one. Conservatives cried invisible wolf as China unveiled the prototype for what's thought to be a new, stealthy fighter jet, the J-20, but the new F-35 is far superior. We have many times as many fighter jets as them and many times as many nuclear weapons.

We must not be afraid to support causes that upset China. Nor must we be afraid to push them to stop dumping their goods on the world market at artificially low prices, to support freedom for their citizens and to enact increased workplace protection. But we are no longer the sole hegemon — if we ever were — and we need China's help to deal with Iran, North Korea and a series of other issues.

No war, hot or cold, will force them to see our point of view. Only through increased interaction and increased exposure to Western values will their citizens demand more freedoms. The Great Firewall cannot remain in place indefinitely. Like the Berlin Wall, it will someday fall. But when it does fall, it will be due to pressure from a Chinese population ready for the modern world of Facebook, Google and Wikipedia. In the long run, these do more to advance the cause of liberty than the type of wasteful, expensive and counterproductive conflict that pitted us against the Soviet Union for half a century.

## APPLY LIBERALLY

**Zach Dallmeyer-**  
**Drennen '13.5** is from  
Canandaigua, N.Y.

Middlebury is concerned not only with the salaries of its graduates, but their social impact as well, it makes sense for our investments to focus on much more than fiscal return. Investments that make sense support companies that don't employ children, that provide a safe and healthy workplace for all their employees, that are careful about how they dispose of their waste, that don't support authoritarian regimes, that aren't racist or sexist and that support the communities from which they benefit.

Peckham's article makes the false assumption (as does our administration) that doing good and doing well are at odds with each other — that, "unfortunately profitability and social benefit boast no explicit link in our economy." This is simply not true. Numerous scholarly studies indicate the opposite; stocks that are highly ranked socially or environmentally either perform similarly or better than those that do not take ESG (Environmental, Social and Governance) metrics into account. Studies performed by economists at Harvard, London Business School and MIT show positive correlations between environmental rankings and market cap value, employee satisfaction and returns and social responsibility ratings and performance. I would be more than happy to share these studies with anyone interested in seeing them.

While I appreciate the reflection and perhaps research that went into Peckham's article, I wish the author had taken the time to ask some of the members of the Socially Responsible Investment Club if they have concrete alternatives to our current investment strategy before assuming the opposite. Peckham's article argues, "Concerned students should have a deep knowledge of the specific issue at hand and concrete alternative avenues to pursue." I couldn't agree more. And that is why our club has worked very hard to research what our peer schools are doing to invest responsibly as well as what avenues other institutions have pursued.

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## "THE FACEBOOK VANITY PLATE"

From what I hear, many companies would like to know if their applicants (ab)use alcohol, fly high, toss up the shocker in photos, use offensive language or know how to keep their personal life private. I also imagine that when an employer interviews prospective employees, they often wonder what the applicants look like at the beach, whether they vote blue or red or if they follow the cross.

To answer these questions, it's no secret that many companies often look up applicants on Facebook, or — if one is to believe the recent hysteria — require prospective employees to surrender social media passwords to screen their private communiqués (and probably to toss up some hilarious statuses in the process). But even though discrimination based on personal life is not illegal — unless it involves rejecting a female applicant on the basis that she might become a mother — one can protect one's self from it with the "Facebook vanity plate."

I first saw a Facebook vanity plate when a "Franchyze Baylor" showed up on my newsfeed. I don't know no Franchyze, I thought. Who dat? I clicked through and discovered it was my good friend and R. Kelly/Allen Iverson enthusiast, who we'll call "Mags." Now, unlike most of the people who have a vanity plate, Mags has nothing to hide but rather needed a name that reflected her unique lifestyle. But as an added bonus, she can hide her personal life should she want to indulge in the unsavory, photograph it, upload it to Facebook and then hide it.

Since Franchyze's appearance, I have seen many people follow her example, as the amount of Facebook vanity plates that cross my newsfeed has grown considerably. The vast majority I know are Middlebury seniors wishing to obfuscate the more fun moments at college, even though I'm happy to report that it appears the days of pairing 60 photos from a sloppy soiree with the night's choice quote finally appear to be over (or maybe I'm just getting older).

While part of me laments the

fact that people aren't owning the majestic nights of callow youth — as thinking like that makes for empty memoirs — I can forgive those staring in the face of an uphill battle of securing employment and steady income. But I simply cannot forgive the appallingly banal choice of the middle name as pseudonym, as it so often is the choice for the vanity plate. Besides being boring, it's on the passport and thus not technically a pseudonym, hardly rendering it secure.

The obvious course of action is to take the Franchyze route and choose a name that really distills your personality into a word that represents you — but just one. This is not like when you're at the sandwich counter and give "Arturo Snackwell" with a straight face when they ask for a name, just to see if you can. Your friends should be able to find and remember your name. If you have a nickname, use that; if not, make one up, ideally keeping your initials. (I know what you're thinking about the idea of giving yourself a nickname, but how lame can it be if the entire hip-hop community does it?)

Unfortunately, if the employer is really sharp, they won't just search the applicant's name, but email address. If it comes back with a fake name, the jig is up. Suppose they are unable to click through, the employer will simply assume the worst, as the applicant has clearly attempted to hide his or her online identity. And if the employer can click through, they will realize that the applicant is both inept with technology and paranoid, as the online behavior probably isn't particularly damning in the first place. But if it is, the applicant better hope that the employers who look at all the fun photos aren't Puritans, plagued — to paraphrase Mencken — by that haunting fear that somewhere out there, someone is having a good time.

## THE MIDDLEBURY MINT

**Ethan Wolff-Mann**  
**'12** is from Norwich, Vt.

## A response to "College's endowment as a private investment"

The ethics of our college's endowment has been the focus of much discussion on campus over the past few weeks. As someone who has worked on socially responsible investment issues since my arrival at Middlebury, I am thrilled to see the level of interest and support that this issue is receiving. I am equally enthused by the passionate challenges that are being voiced by students and the administration alike. These challenges provide our community with an opportunity to truly examine our collective values, institutional mission and the global impact our investments undoubtedly have.

In the spirit of community discussion, I would like to respond to Will Peckham's op-ed (March 22, "College's endowment as a private investment") challenging the legitimacy of a responsible investment strategy for Middlebury's endowment.

The traditional rhetoric for private investments — and the one that Peckham's article accepts unquestioningly — assumes that words such as "performance," "returns" and "profit" refer exclusively to unlimited financial growth. I would challenge this assumption and propose an alternative framework in which these terms are more nuanced and refer to multiple measures of success. A triple bottom line investment strategy that considers People, Planet and Profit, raises social and environmental issues to an equal status as profit without diminishing the importance of the latter. In this model, the performance of a stock is measured by its collective social, environmental and financial return.

Peckham's article asserted that, "investment in contracted defense firms makes great sense." I would argue that this is a misuse of the word "sense." Military contractors certainly make us "cents," but that does not mean they make "sense." In order for our investments to make sense, they would have to take into account more than how many pennies we make to the dollar; just as

strategy would engage in five basic strategies. Such an endowment would have a certain portion of its stock dedicated to positive investments, or investments in specific companies chosen because they engage directly in the creation of environmental or social value, such as venture capital in solar and wind farms. The rest of the endowment would be invested in a diverse set of sectors, and each stock would undergo ESG analysis — an analysis based on basic environmental, social and governance criteria that we could devise as a community. A portion of the endowment would also engage in shareholder activism, filing and voting on shareholder resolutions on those stocks. The Middlebury community would choose certain products, companies or sectors based on the ESG analysis from which to divest completely. Finally, our operating budget would be moved into a national, perhaps local, bank that engages in community development.

Middlebury has taken the first step toward engaging in positive investing. Four million dollars — just under 0.5 percent — of our endowment are designated to companies that specifically engage in environmentally sustainable practices. In order to ensure that this fund and any of the previously mentioned strategies are pursued responsibly, some amount of transparency would be required. There are creative ways of getting around the legal limits to transparency, such as providing a list of companies and funds at a three-month lag. I think any of the students in the Socially Responsible Investment Club would be happy to discuss these alternatives with anyone who is curious.

Ultimately, I am happy to report that reality affords us much greater potential regarding our endowment than Peckham's piece would have us believe. We can do well and do good. We can seek out an investment strategy that does not simply serve as a means to the educational, ethical, environmental and athletic ends our institution seeks to uphold, but that itself promotes these ends. We can put our money where our mouth is.

## READER OP-ED

**Olivia Grugan '12** is from Alexandria, Penn.

## Greeks gone wild: How far is too far?

I have a close family friend who was a student at Dartmouth College during the '80s and a member of the on-campus fraternity Alpha Delta. He's told me countless stories about his "big green glory days," and all of the fond memories he has of his old brothers in the very house that inspired *Animal House*. Subsequently, I think I know a thing or two about what the college's Greek life was like during his time there.

This alumnus described his decision to pledge as being a standard one for first-years trying to enter the

Dartmouth social scene. Not only is being a part of Greek life a great way to meet and build close ties with other students, but it's also the center piece for campus nightlife and parties. If you want to have a social life, you pledge. If you want to be part of a brotherhood, you

pledge. If you don't, you don't, and you'll probably be lumped with the "social outcasts." It's as simple as that.

So why not join a Dartmouth fraternity? Roughly 60 percent of the eligible student body takes part in the Greek system, so it can't be all bad, right?

Well, according to ex-brother of Sigma Alpha Epsilon Andrew Lohse, it is.

In an article published in the Dartmouth newspaper, Lohse speaks out about his experience in Greek life on campus, describing that pledges were asked to do things like "swim in a kiddie pool of vomit, urine, fecal matter, semen and rotten food products; eat omelets made of vomit; chug cups of vinegar, which in one case caused a pledge to vomit blood; drink beer poured down fellow pledges' ass cracks ... among other abuses," in order to become brothers. He argues that the culture has turned away from any morals or values and has turned to crude, disgusting and dangerous activities.

Although there is no way to know how accurate these

hazing claims are, it wouldn't surprise me if they were true. Fraternities these days can do some crazy things, and the Dartmouth chapters are particularly notorious in New England.

Regardless, this subject has recently earned itself a lot of hype. People are talking about it, and *Rolling Stone* magazine even published a lengthy article in response to Lohse's claims. I think it's clear that something needs to be done, not only in the Dartmouth fraternity system, but in fraternities across the country. It's unclear, however, what exactly needs to be done in order to encourage safer and less-disgusting student activities.

Some would argue that the time for this kind of Greek system is coming to its close, as my family friend now does. He believes, as many others also do, that if Lohse's statement is truly accurate and the glory days of casual social drinking and light-hearted hazing are over, then fraternities really do belong in the past.

Personally, I'm definitely not unhappy about the lack of Greek life on campus. I could never take myself seriously in a sorority (I LOVE MY BIGGG, DELTA DELTA DELTA, WOO-HOO), and fraternities aren't something I see as completely necessary for my Vermont college experience.

They are, however, a whole lot of fun; there's no argument to be made there. Fraternities, at their most basic level, throw a lot of huge raging parties with kegs and pong and dancing and singing and what have you. There's a lot more than that, obviously, but you get the picture. Although our social houses at Middlebury are great, they really cannot compete with the Greek traditions they were meant to replace.

The thing that Lohse seemed to lose sight of in his article is the fact that fraternities are actually really fun to be a part of, even through the rough hazing rituals. It's all about getting really close to a group of people, hanging out, having a good time, and being a part of something

together.

I mean, hazing can be really fun. Who doesn't like being initiated into the group? Being made fun of and having to do absurd tasks in order to keep up with tradition is exciting, and yet there are all of these laws that prohibit it. God forbid the new first-years on some sports team get good old-fashion wasted with their teammates for the first time. That would really be a tragedy.

The problem with hazing comes with the extreme, and once it starts rolling it's pretty difficult to stop. When one particular group of newbies are put through an initiation process that is more gross, dangerous or violent than the last round, they will end up doing something even worse to the next group. And they to the next group. And the next.

It becomes a vicious cycle of one-upping the last group in which everything just gets worse and worse for everybody, until you end up getting something like swimming in kiddie pools of filth and bile just to stay a part of something. Ew.

I think the key is moderation and loose regulation.

Administration at schools with rich Greek traditions like Dartmouth should make sure it is clear to the organizations that the focus needs to be on having a great time with great people. Everything should be for fun's sake instead of having to perform dangerous and unhealthy tasks just to prove that you aren't a coward. Drinking copious amounts of alcohol obviously comes with the territory.

The Greek system is all about brother- and sisterhood, and as my family friend fondly recalls, his days in the animal house were great. While they needed to do some "crazy and stupid" things when they were pledging, he said that none of them were outright dangerous and always made for really fun nights anyway. That's what it should be about, and what I think we should take away from Lohse's article.

## CONFRONTING OUR FEARS

On Monday night, my dear friend whose name I now omit to protect the innocent, startled me by sidling next to my car and suddenly shrieking. I had been sitting in the driver's seat of my idling vehicle, passing the time by sliding letter tiles across the screen of my iPhone in another losing effort of a damnable game, Scramble with Friends. My reaction illustrated my terror in the moment. Many months removed from my last brush with tactile fear, Monday night's scare reminded me of a key

**BUT THEN AGAIN...**

distinction: some fears we experience naturally, most we create.

Growing up requires a person to confront, overcome, succumb to and most startlingly, learn fears. Of all of the fears I harbor today, few tangible and understandable ones stand out or fit within an overarching network of naturally occurring concerns. What scares me most today? Living my life alone: with no intimate partner, no family, no friends, no career, no love. Ever since I can remember, growing up meant having all of these things, so living life without them has always presented a puzzle to solve and a fear not only to avoid, but, as I feel now, also to overcome. We should measure our own successes in our own way, even if that means traveling an unbeaten path, rather than evaluating them by a learned metric.

Realizing the artificiality of created fears, understanding their origins and eliminating them from our lives requires focus and a willingness to confront within ourselves some ugly tendencies. In some ways, freeing ourselves from fear frees our society from "isms": the reliable "isms" concerning race and sex, the newer "isms" regarding marriage and, most importantly, "isms" describing cultures and forms of government (i.e. capitalism, socialism or communism).

Today, we at Middlebury encounter an ill-defined and yet ubiquitous perpetuation of our informed fears, many of which come from expectations, most of which we impose upon ourselves as the well-trained offspring of a high-achieving community with respected and notable alumni. At this place, we

learn to eat three meals a day, to focus our learning by designating a major, to quantify and highlight our "successes" in classrooms, on athletic fields and in the realm of the so-called "extra-curricular," as if taking on activities beyond pure academics connotes "extra" responsibilities these days.

What we know about ourselves we rarely learn on our own. Before setting foot on the College's campus, we know our school carries a positive reputation; Middlebury is a good institution, the rankings tell us so. When we arrive, we push ourselves to commit precious hours to the endless pursuit of a bottomless well of knowledge. We work hard because our neighbors work hard; we drink beer because they drink beer, we play sports because they're playing too. We do what we are supposed to do and fear achieving a status unworthy of the heritage of this place. We push the ball down the field, terrified, always, of a failure to advance.

Before the realities of post-graduate life set in, let me urge my peers to challenge yourselves to ask the questions you are afraid of answering: what am I doing here and why am I doing it? Ask yourself if you can stomach a \$25,000-a-year salary in order to take your dream job. Challenge your compassion and your political correctness by wondering how much you really care about changing the world and saving its every last soul. Come off the tracks if the path forward you seek requires trailblazing, but prepare yourself for the blood, sweat, tears and loneliness of going at it alone.

At the risk of exposing myself for what I really am, I urge the class of 2012 to grow up as you wish, according to your own hopes, not our shared, informed fears. The types of unemployment Middlebury graduates confront are not nearly as scary as the unhappiness we may sew for ourselves by staying the course we have followed for almost a quarter century. Refuse to allow tired stereotypes of others, lofty goals for ourselves and the informed fears of our childhood to write the next chapters of our lives. Allow your imagination to run wild but avoid cowering when you surprise yourself with the conclusions you ultimately draw. For 22 years you have heard of your own greatness, I dare you to do whatever it takes to find and then define it. What? Are you afraid?

## Drop the race card

Racism is not a component of the Republican Party's platform. Unfortunately, the tragic death of Trayvon Martin this February has unleashed an eruption of accusations that conservatives prevent the attainment of a post-racial America. The liberal media and the president himself, however, are the ones drawing racial lines. Weighing in on the shooting, President Obama commented, "If I had a son he'd look like Trayvon." However, I, as a future mother and irrespective of my skin color, along with the President have the empathy to understand the suffering that Trayvon's family is currently enduring.

Obama's comments followed mounting pressure from black activists and the liberal media to respond to Trayvon's death. Al Sharpton even moved his radio and TV shows to Florida in order to join the protests that represented the shooting as a product of racism. His coverage of the tragedy seemed much less concerned with the actual death of Trayvon than with the ramifications of white-on-black crime.

The most blatant example of the liberal media's efforts to manipulate Trayvon's death into an indictment on lingering racism in America is the characterization of George Zimmerman by *The New York Times* as a "white Hispanic." Obviously, the *NYT* believed that Hispanic-on-black crime does not have that same special

ring to it as does white-on-black. If the self-appointed neighborhood watchman was truly a dangerous vigilante, who did not shoot Trayvon in self-defense, then Mr. Zimmerman belongs in jail. However, accusations of racism, proved only by his "white-ish" skin, must not constitute evidence of his guilt.

Any accusations that charge liberals of perpetuating the racial divide, however, lack credibility and inevitably do not stick. For instance, then-Senator Joe Biden, whose record of gaffes would necessitate an anthology to enumerate, portrayed Presidential candidate Obama as "the first mainstream African American who is articulate and bright and clean and a nice-looking guy." If Rush Limbaugh had publicized a similar opinion, the progressive, liberal media watchdog, Media Matters, would certainly be joined by a chorus seeking his resignation. Biden, on the other hand, was awarded with the VP spot on Obama's ticket.

Therefore, Senate Minority leader Mitch McConnell is not a racist for wanting to do everything in his power to get Obama out of the White House, just as I am not a racist because I voted for John McCain in 2008.

## THE ELEPHANT IN THE ROOM

**Katie Earle '12** is from Bedminster, N.J.

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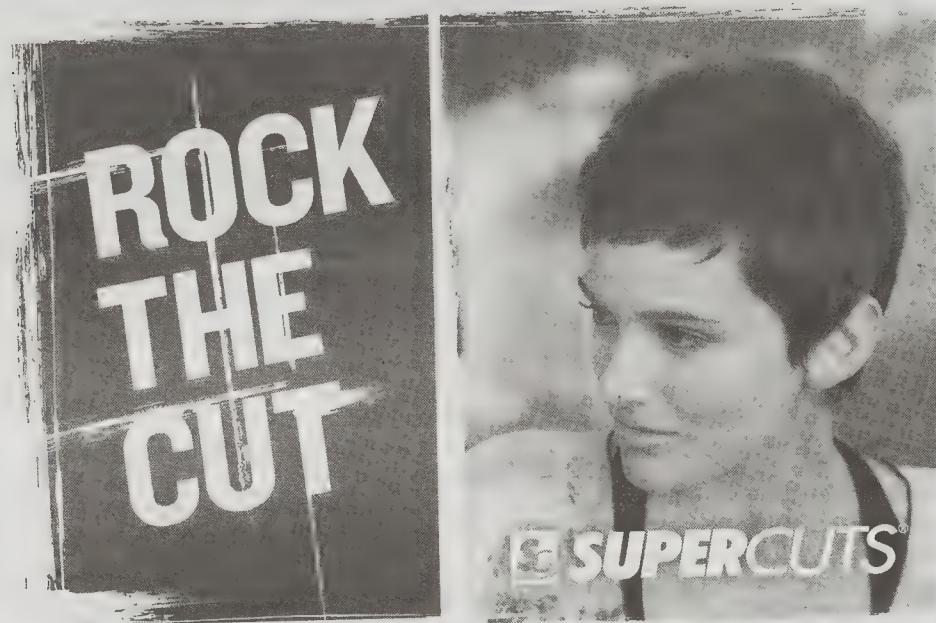
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# SPRING TRAINING

The softball team's trip to Florida prepared them to tackle the upcoming NESCAC season. With such a long preseason — beginning early in fall semester — the players are more than eager to start playing real games once spring break rolls around. This year was no exception. After a grueling period of preparation, the Middlebury softball team finally had some time at bat. There's no replacement for real

## SOFTBALL

games, according to captain Aly Downing '12. Only on the field and at the plate can players really "work out kinks" and prepare to face the NESCAC season ahead.

For funding, team members sold concessions at men's and women's hockey games throughout the winter. They also worked several field hockey games in the fall and at the play-off games for men's basketball. In total, the softball team spent upwards of 30 games selling food in order to fund their trip. However, raising the money was only half of the preparation. The team trained rigorously throughout the winter. The players spent time in the gym working on their fitness; attended captain's practices and hit pitches in the batting cage. Usually, the team spends the entire six weeks of preparation in the bubble. Due to our unseasonably warm weather this year, however, the team practiced on the field before setting off for the Sunshine State. Although they had already enjoyed playing outdoors, the players couldn't start facing other teams until their arrival in Florida.

Over the course of the trip, the team played a total of 11 games in the heat. The games may not have always concluded with a Middlebury victory, however, they enabled the team to hone their teamwork and technical skills. In Florida, according to Downing, the team gets to see all of its "hard work come together." The players take one day off to visit family or site-see in the Orlando area, but otherwise, the trip focuses on softball.

Although the game itself is an important component, part of the purpose of the trip is spending time as a team — be it in cleats or out to dinner. One player said that the best part of the trip was "the time we get to spend together as a team, both on and off the field." The time to bond will pay off in the form of teamwork and communication during the weeks ahead. Now that the trip to Florida is over, the team begins its real season, playing five to seven games per week. In the words of Downing, softball is officially "in full swing."

*By Rachel Liddell*

The weather may have been more pleasant than last year at Lake Lanier in Georgia — a comfortable, sunny 80 degrees as opposed to cold and rainy — and the opportunities for tanning and swimming more abundant, but this year's spring break trip was in one important way how it has always has been for crew members: an intense though rewarding week of almost nothing but rowing.

"It's very intense," said varsity rower Amanda Kaminsky '13. "There's definitely no partying."

For the entire week, the team practiced three times daily for one and a half to two hours, meaning that most free time was spent eating, napping or relaxing. For the rowers, weather conditions always play an important role in the success of the trip, and the good conditions this year meant even more time on the water. Last year, the team saw consistently cold and stormy weather, which cut down on practice time, made practicing more difficult and restricted downtime activities.

"This year we could go outside; people could sit in the sun and go swimming," said Kaminsky. "Last year it was so cold and so gross that when we weren't rowing, we were just in the hot tub or inside."

Of the long practices, Burch acknowledged that, "You get sick of it after a while, so you feel like you're there for two weeks, or three weeks. But by the end, you're like, 'Wow, that was quick!'"

He added that the high levels of exercise and sleep make you feel like "you're super fit, so you feel as healthy as ever," he said.

Another effect of the unusually warm Vermont spring was the fact that this trip wasn't the first time that many team members had been on the water, a condition that created higher degree of experience among rowers than in years where the Vermont winter runs longer.

Last year, as part of the novice team, Kaminsky remembers, "Half our boat had never been on the water before ... their first time in a boat ever was in Georgia, with three practices a day, which could have been frustrating for them. This year, at least everyone had rowed a little bit before."

The Georgia trip often helps the team's coaches shuffle rowers into different boats, meaning that performance in practices also has implications for positioning for the rest of the seasons.

"[There is] a lot of depth in the team, a lot of very good rowers, so it was pretty intense in the sense that everyone was really focused during practice and everyone was kind of

gunning for that position in the first boat," said varsity rower Spencer Burch '13.

But though this kind of competition is present, both Burch and Kaminsky cite team bonding as one of the trip's most important outcomes. On the women's team, for example, novice crew members once cooked dinner for varsity team members, and vice versa. The team also organized a trip to Atlanta for dinner one night.

Eating proved to be a big focus of the trip; Burch says that a team member measured burning 2,000 calories between two practices, so replacing those calories meant constant snacking.

"We just eat like we're vacuum cleaners," Burch said. "We're basically bottomless pits."

In addition to weather improvements, this year also represented a marked upgrade in living conditions from previous trips. Before, rowers had lived on "really old kind of crappy houseboats that had a lot of personality," said Burch. The houseboats hadn't even had septic facilities. But when the owners of the property sold the houseboats, they agreed to rent the team 6-person houses near the lake instead. "It was a pretty big step up in the world," said Burch. These newer houses even had maid service, laundry and dishwashers.

The weeklong trip culminated in a Saturday regatta at Clemson University in South Carolina, which was another change in the itinerary from last year, when the team had travelled back up to New England to compete over break. The team did well, finding that the crew competition in the South is generally less competitive.

Although the pace is at times grueling and members must foot most of the trip's bill themselves, the team has almost 100 percent trip attendance.

"If you've done crew before, it's kind of very, very strongly encouraged [to go on the trip]," said Kaminsky. "And it's really fun and helpful and everyone gets to know each other really well."

In the end, it adds up to an entire week of doing almost exclusively one of their favorite things, and that makes it worth it.

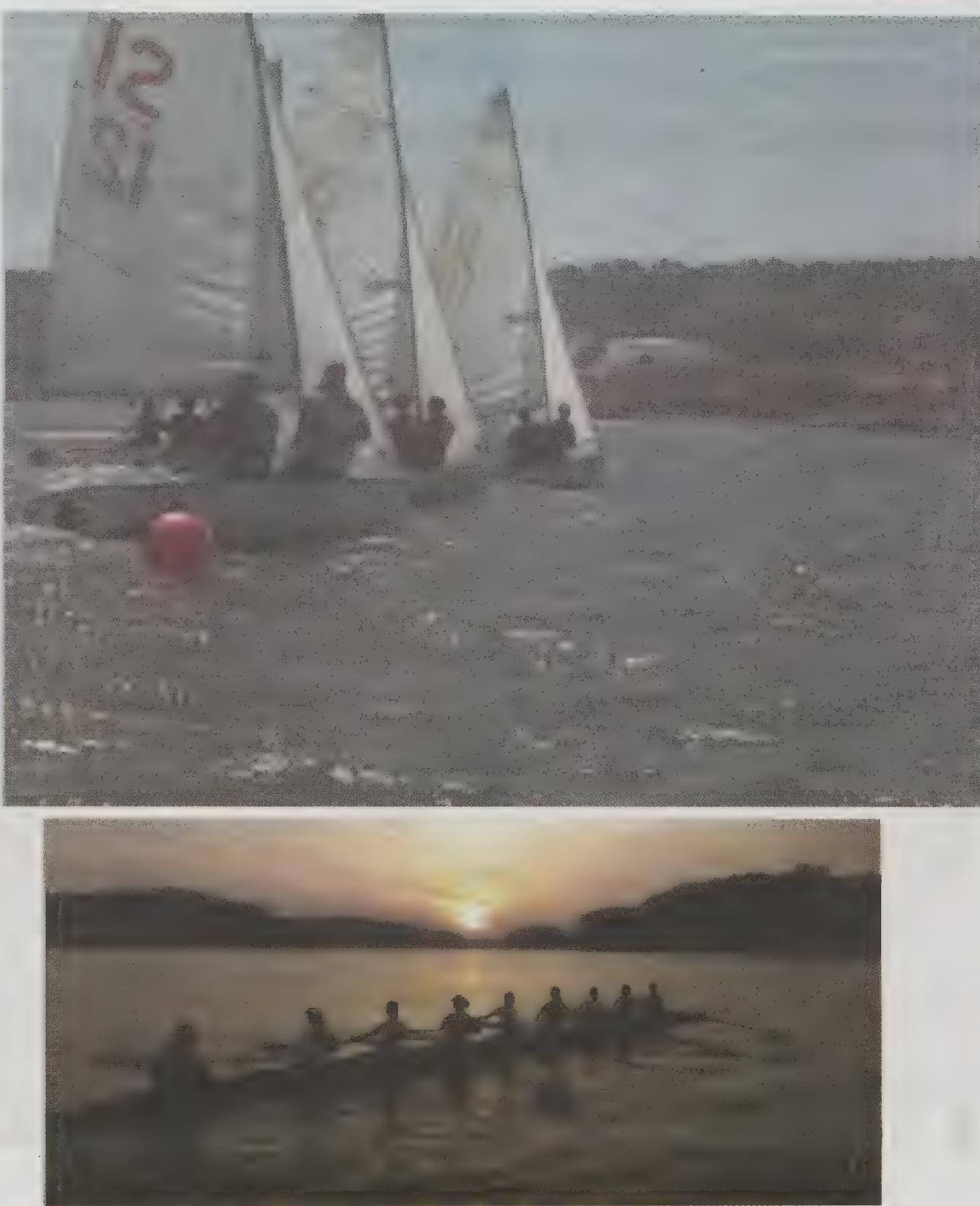
"It's actually kind of relaxing because it's a mental break from school," said Kaminsky. "Even though we're working out all the time, we're really only eating, sleeping, hanging out and rowing."

"If I could do less work and do more rowing at Middlebury, I would totally do that," Burch said.

*By Leah Pickett*



# SAILING



**7:00 — wake up  
7:10 — breakfast  
7:45 pack sack lunches  
8:00: drive to the San Diego Yacht Club  
9-9:45 — sunscreen application/other preparation  
10:00 practice — drills and boat handling  
11:30 — on-dock lunch  
12:00 — practice races, fleet racing or team racing  
2:00 — de-rigging the boats  
2:15 — drive back  
3:15 — optional team fitness time. Alternatively, naptime  
4:00 — snacks, naps and showers  
5:00 — intensive dinner prep  
7:00 — dinner and team bonding time  
11:00 — bedtime**

# SOFTBALL

**7:30 — Leave the house and head to the softball complex  
9:30 — first game  
11:30 — second game  
1:30 — Return to the house for relaxation  
9:30pm — Team meeting to discuss previous and future games**

# FRISBEE

## TOURNAMENT DAYS

**7:30 — Wake up, have breakfast and drive to the fields  
9:00 — Warmups  
10:00 — First game  
noon — Second game  
2:00 — Third game  
4:00 — Last game  
6:00 — Dinner and rest**

## NON-TOURNAMENT DAYS:

**10:00 — Practice  
1:00 — Relax on the beach  
5:00 — Cook dinner and relax**

# CREW

**6:00 — Wake up  
7:00 — First of three daily practices  
11:30 — After eating, second practice of the day begins  
1:00 — Most team members take a nap and eat some more  
5:00 — Final practice of the day**

The frisbee team's trip to Georgia this year proved well balanced. Not only did Middlebury's favorite disk-throwing gang exceed expectations during their two tournaments, they also enjoyed a relaxing week on the shores of Georgia bonding and gaining some well-deserved respite from the demanding life of student athletes.

# FRISBEE

To get to the beach, they rented two 15-passenger vans. Required to have three drivers for each van, the team needed six players licensed to drive the vehicles. Enduring driver's education again inevitably places strain on the schedules of the drivers, as they attend the classes, practice driving the monoliths, take the test, and then spend four hours afterwards driving before the trip. In addition, Middlebury ran out of vans for spring break excursions this year, and the Frisbee team needed to rent the vehicles from a third party. As a result, all of the drivers needed to meet or exceed the age of 21.

This side of preparation, however, isn't even half of the story. Top condition is a must for all athletes before beginning their season, and the frisbee team is no exception. Players practice two or three times per week indoors before the weather warms, and then after the fields are usable, they practice four or five times a week. During the winter, they focus on fitness in order to prepare for the grueling physical demands of tournaments. Athletes must focus on endurance to prepare to play four 90-minute games a day during the spring trip. Over the course of their Georgia excursion, the team played a full 24 hours of Frisbee.

All the hard work paid off this year. In one tournament, the team maintained its place as fifth seed, and in the other tournament, Middlebury's frisbee players began seeded eleventh and finished seeded sixth. Winning games, however, is only half of the purpose of the trip. According to captain Jesse Wolf '12, the week between the two tournaments is for "play and recovery." Just like the rest of the student body, the Frisbee team needs a few days to rest and recuperate before returning to Midd's rigor. Indeed, this year, the group greatly enjoyed the break, spending the time relaxing on the beach, braiding each others' hair with beads, and occasionally throwing the disk. The importance of team bonding is "undeniable and inexplicable" with ramifications both on and off the field, according to the captain. Hopefully, these positive outcomes of the Frisbee team's trip to Georgia will surface throughout their upcoming season.

By Rachel Liddell

The sailing team may be the club with the shortest tradition of spring break sailing trips, which means that the training trip in San Diego is constantly a work in progress.

For instance, there were a number of tweaks to the daily practice routines this year. For one, the team's workouts and practices placed less emphasis on fitness; last year, the sailors took daily runs through the surrounding hills and completed floor and core-strengthening workouts after practices. Cutting out these workouts was due to the fact that "people didn't like [the workouts] last year," said Liz Briggs '14.5 and the team's 25-year-old coach, who "was not a huge fan of fitness" and who last year led the workouts, deciding against them.

The number of sailors on the trip was smaller this year, too; the team filled eight boats last year, and this year there were only five. But since the majority of the sailors opting to go on the training trip were sophomores — with four being first-years — many skipper/crew pairs from the fall remained intact. Generally, the pairs (each boat has one skipper and one crew) are fixed at the beginning of the trip, though this year, the uneven numbers did mean that one sailor always sat out in the coach boat.

The trip was decidedly more relaxed in a couple key ways; for one, they didn't use the cameras that had last year been affixed to the back of one boat per day in order that the entire team could watch and critique technique the recording. The team had also had short classroom lessons last year to learn or brush up on "team racing" rules and strategies. Team racing, the type of racing done during the spring season, differs from fall "fleet racing" in a number of important ways, and many sailors arrive at Middlebury with very little team racing experience, if any. This year, however, the team racing lessons were cut down dramatically. But even with these omissions, sailors felt that the trip allowed them to improve.

"People's boat handling definitely got a lot sharper and people who didn't know much about team racing definitely learned a ton," Briggs said. "People ... got more in tune and refreshed."

Part of this improvement may have to do with the more manageable weather conditions San Diego offers.

"It's windy but in a sheltered area [at the San Diego Yacht Club], so it's not choppy," said Briggs. "Whereas at any other venues in New England, when it's windy it's going to be choppy."

A main focus of the trip outside of sailing was dinner preparation; Briggs says that "the sophomore boys prepped ahead of time ... [the food] went up a tier from last year." One night even included homemade dumplings made entirely from scratch and Chinese flatbread, while "Mexican night," a traditional themed night on the final night of the trip, also featured in.

The smaller number of sailors on the trip this year had its benefits; for one, the already close team had even more opportunities to get to know each other.

"The team is quite close. It allows everyone to become even closer and allows for things like everybody sitting at the same table at dinner," said Briggs. "No one forms cliques or anything."

By Leah Pickett

*Just  
AT LEAST*

BY CLAIRE SIBLEY

What do we, as Middlebury College students, mean when we say we want to be in a relationship? Someone to do homework with, or someone to screw? Someone we eat most of our meals with and go home to — or someone who visits a few nights a week to relieve us from the stress of the rest of the day? It's impossible to assume that all of us here want the same thing, but addressing the question reveals the reality of our situation: if we don't know what we want, we can't have it.

I detest the (now shamefully underground) stereotype of the "player" who uses his partners like tissues (blow first, then throw away), because it allows us to put a name on something we don't fully understand so that we may then ignore it.

It points to and assumes a bias against a reason to have sex: while you may argue that a player may just be a cruelly selfish, the fact remains that the difference between him and the partner he supposedly mistreats is their separate goals in the sexual experience. If they both want a hit-and-run, he's not a player.

At Midd, we love to think that there are two kinds of sex: the kind officiated inside the title of a romantic relationship, and the kind we condemn to the wild lands of hook-up culture. We also like to think that sex in a relationship should be loving and respectful (as well as expected); and then, of course, other kinds of sex don't have to be. Doubtless there exists, at least in the ideal, the enlightened hook-up partner who, as a rule, respects and cares for the other half of their one-night stands — but even among them it is rare to find one who regards the act without embarrassment. The binary entraps all: if you smile and say hello to the last person you hooked up with while standing at the Proctor soup station, you run the risk of sending the message that you want to move on to something bigger, something romantic (which of course is vulnerable, especially when unreciprocated). Then again, if you don't say hello you're an a\*\*.

But why is it like this? William Derezewicz writes in a piece for *The New York Times* — "A Man. A Woman. Just Friends?" — that the difference lies in the fact that since women have been looked at as an equal to men in society, "romantic partners [have come to] share more than erotic passion, that companionship and equality are part of the relationship." While on the surface this doesn't sound like breaking news, what is left implicit is the consideration of friendship and equality as additions to sexuality rather than necessitated by it. You don't ignore your hookups because you don't like them. You ignore them because we don't have a way to talk about people we care about, want to screw, but don't love.

The fact that we see sex and friendship (and even friendliness) as immiscible outside of a relationship forces us to violate all but the purely physical aspects of sex: something happens to you chemically and emotionally when you take your clothes off with someone and touch each other. You know a part of them most of the rest of the world doesn't, and they know that same part in you. This isn't love, though the feelings are often confused. It's intimacy. When you hook-up with someone and then pejoratively kiss-and-tell, or ignore them, this intimacy is violated. Unfortunately, this happens frequently because we're not sure what we owe our hookups after having sex with them. I'd like to argue that intimacy is a kind of friendship we neither know how to talk about, nor what language to use were we to try — to the detriment of our social community. And it works the same the other way: why does it instantly become weird if you find your friends sexually attractive? Because it looks like power if they don't feel the same way, and we have an idea that friendship should be equal. What I ask is that we begin to remember that sex doesn't have to be about power, but it does have to be intimate.

And on that note, I dare you to ask that hookup you're ignoring on a friend-date — just see where things go.

## Economics professor Charles T. Clotfelter discusses the big issues in big-time sports

By Joe Flaherty

How would a visitor from a different country react at the sight of a football stadium on the campus of a large, research university? That was the question Professor Charles T. Clotfelter of Duke University set out to answer in his book, *Big-Time Sports in American Universities*, and last week's lecture titled "What? You Don't Take College Sports Seriously?" which was based on this bestseller. Clotfelter's lecture was the spring edition of the David K. Smith '42 lecture series in economics. Currently, Clotfelter is the Z. Smith Reynolds Professor of Public Policy Studies and Professor of Economics and Law at Duke University, where he has taught since 1979.

"The visitor would turn to you and ask, 'What's this doing here?'" said Clotfelter. "And that was the question my book was about — how do you make sense of commercial sports being in research universities?"

Clotfelter began by commenting on how the U.S. is distinct in having big-time sports programs at research universities.

"So we are unique in that way but we are also unusual in the fact that we have a lot of universities that are highly ranked in the world," said Clotfelter.

When asked about why a university should have a sports program, Clotfelter said the university president might answer, "By playing sports you learn how to lose gracefully, you learn how to win gracefully and you learn about teamwork." Clotfelter, however, is unsatisfied with this standard explanation. While he expressed an understanding for how athletics make up an important part of a college student's experience, his research endeavors to look at an aspect of university athletics that is more complex.

"The thing that is more difficult to explain, especially to a visitor, is why should

"A university with a big-time sports program can have the sports stop the university in its tracks," he continued, citing anecdotes from his days at the University of Maryland. Clotfelter admitted that he too was responsible for a couple of volumes on higher education that did not say anything about big-time sports and speculated as to their unexplained absence in academic literature.

"It's either because commercial sports on campus are not really important, or maybe it's because we're embarrassed that [they're] there, when [they] shouldn't be important," said Clotfelter. "For some reason, there is this blindness about [big-time sports]."

Clotfelter mentioned how very few universities will mention sports in their mission statement despite their obvious impact on the institution. In a standard mission statement that talked about a university's "holy trinity" of "teaching, research and service," athletics — much less intercollegiate athletics — is rarely mentioned, according to Clotfelter. "And so my second question," said Clotfelter, "is, where is athletics? What I am saying in the book is there are two different worlds in higher education for these kinds of universities."

Clotfelter set out to draw attention to the gap between what such a mission state would indicate to a visitor — the insignificance of university athletics — and the reality of how big big-time sports really are. "For the year 2007, 87 percent of the articles in *The New York Times* about these [large, research universities] were about sports," said Clotfelter. "Duke is spending \$68 million per year on athletics and the University of Texas is spending \$114 million."

Clotfelter went on to emphasize the attachment people have to their local university's sports team. Thirty-three percent of

**"The thing that is more difficult to explain ... is why should there be a commercial enterprise that looks and feels like a professional team. People on the street would say, 'It's money, it's all about the money.' Well, it turns out if you look at the balance sheet of most athletic departments of the big-time programs, most of them lose money."**

CHARLES T. CLOTFELTER

Z. SMITH REYNOLDS PROFESSOR OF PUBLIC POLICY STUDIES AND PROFESSOR OF ECONOMICS AND LAW AT DUKE UNIVERSITY

there be a commercial enterprise that looks and feels like a professional team," said Clotfelter. "People on the street would say, 'It's money, it's all about the money.' Well, it turns out if you look at the balance sheet of most athletic departments of the big-time programs, most of them lose money."

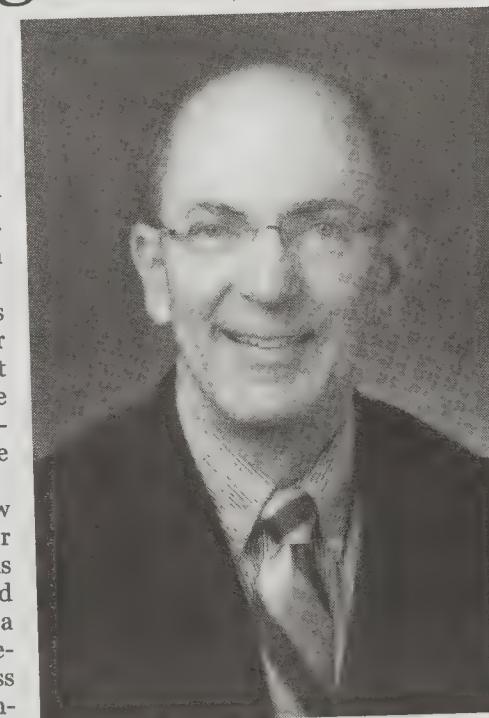
Clotfelter's interest in the subject was originally piqued when he came to two realizations: first, despite the positive results from having athletics on campus, there still are vocal critics of big-time sports. Second, Clotfelter said, "I started [this book] not because I wanted to write a book about sports, it was because I wanted to write a book about higher education, and specifically about universities." Clotfelter was struck by the absence of writing about big-time sports despite their obvious impact on campus life.

"You can find volumes, treatises, in fact, of very scholarly work looking at interdisciplinary work, research, patents, admissions and financial aid, without a single word about intercollegiate athletics," said Clotfelter. "To me, that's a paradox."

adults in Lexington, Kentucky, picked the statement, "I live and die with the Wildcats," when asked to describe their feelings for the team. Clotfelter said, "Now you may think this is a little unusual, but this is the way people feel." Clotfelter found the level of notoriety in Google search results for football coaches compared to university presidents at schools with big-time athletics is 7:1.

One of Clotfelter's largest studies focused on the use of JSTOR, the online electronic storage service for articles on a university campus. "I got permission from 78 different libraries and then bought the data from JSTOR so I had the daily usage of February, March and April for 2006, 2007 and 2008," said Clotfelter. "And for each year there was a dip after selection Sunday." Clotfelter went on to explain how he found if a school's team did unexpectedly well during a tournament game, the next morning there was a 25 percent decline in JSTOR use. However, if a team lost unexpectedly, there was no effect.

Another common misconception Clotfelter addressed was the idea that a



COURTESY OF PHILANTHROPY.COM

Clotfelter speculates on the literary negligence of such a relevant topic as big-time sports in American universities.

big-time sports program subsidizes other university teams like tennis, lacrosse and rowing. However, Clotfelter's research shows that universities with big-time sports were not necessarily the ones that had a lot of students playing on sports teams.

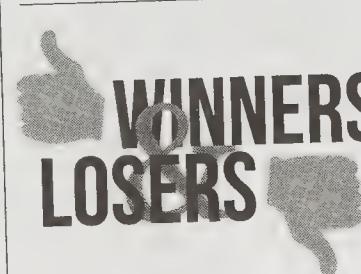
How big-time sports affected a university's quality of teaching, learning and prestige was also a source of interest for Clotfelter. A survey of 21 public universities listed four percent of all students as special admits, 26 percent of first-year athletes as special admits and 49 percent of first-years football players as special admits. "There certainly is the appearance that two different levels of criteria are being used," said Clotfelter.

However, Clotfelter was careful to report that it was not all bad news for universities with big-time sports. "The universities with big-time sports really did not change rank at all," said Clotfelter, commenting on the trajectory of these universities in the pages of the *U.S. News and World Report* rankings of colleges and universities. "If you take out the public universities, which, in general, have been falling, then you find the ones with big-time sports have been going up faster than the others," said Clotfelter.

David K. Smith '42 Chair in Applied Economics Phanindra V. Wunnava praised Clotfelter's work. "He has co-authored books pertaining to the costs of higher education, lotteries and philanthropy and the nonprofit sector. He is also director of the Center for the Study of Philanthropy and Voluntarism at Duke and is a research associate for the National Bureau of Economic Research," said Wunnava in an email. "What's striking is that whenever he was holding any of these administrative appointments, his research continued and was top-notch."

Wanting to bring the lecture to a close on a positive note about big-time sports, and even as an economist concerned with measurable figures, Clotfelter said he recognized the positive civic lessons a big-time sports program can bring.

"One example is meritocracy, that we believe merit ought to come out on top," said Clotfelter. "Even though college sports are not perfect, they have to follow rules and the score always begins at zero to zero. And so there is a living out of some important messages."

**REAL CONTENT**

How excited are you to read about real things going on at our school? We're pretty excited.

**REAL CONTENT**

You know you like the stuff we made up better.

**AVOCADOS**

First time all year Proctor has switched up the flavor palette. Refreshing.

**AVOCADOS**

But come ON, we need to know who this mystery donor is! The suspense is killing us.

**EASTER**

Finding eggs around campus is SO MUCH FUN.

**EASTER**

Mom and dad forgot to send a chocolate rabbit this year. SO uncool.

## STAFF SPOTLIGHT: SHUSHANIK HAKOBYAN

By Michelle Smoler

We should be amazed everyday by the endeavors of our professors, in and out of the classroom, and Visiting Assistant Professor of Economics Shushanik Hakobyan is no exception. Born and raised in Yerevan, Armenia, Hakobyan responded with an emphatic "yes" when asked if this part of her identity influenced her career path.

"You have to understand that Armenia was part of USSR. I grew up in Soviet Union, and after its collapse we became a small landlocked country," said Hakobyan. "Difficulties these countries experienced post-collapse — most typical trade relations collapsed. Armenia was a heavy-manufacturing country, exporting to the rest of the countries in the Soviet Union. We have to analyze, 'Where do you go from there?'"

Hakobyan came to the United States at the age of 23 to get her masters at the John Hopkins School of Advanced International Studies. While her original intent was to pursue international relations she was eventually, it seems, persuaded to enter into the field of economics.

"The uniqueness of SAIS is it pushes its students to do econ courses. I had good econ professors and they saw the potential."

She ended up receiving her Ph.D. in international trade from the University of Virginia and since has split her research in two parts. The first focuses on economic development programs geared towards developing nations and "why some of the developing nations do not take advantage of the program. That's an interesting question," said Hakobyan. "The second deals in trade and labor market interactions, for example, how did NAFTA affect wages of U.S. workers."

While Hakobyan, when asked about her career goals, simply shrugged and said, to keep teaching and doing research, her eyes lit up when asked about her non-academic ventures.

"I'm an immigrant worker in this country, skilled, and one of the negative things about skilled immigration is that you have the possibility of brain-drain of a country," said Hakobyan, citing the tendency for academic migration away from poorer countries. "There are some positive things and one of them is every time I go back home I deliver lectures and provide training and teach people how to use specialized technology."

Before coming to Middlebury Hakobyan was a visiting scholar at the World Bank in Armenia, working to promote its research. In 2006 she became a cofounder of the Armenia Economic Association, some of whose aims are, according to the AEA website, "to improve communication and exchanges among students as well as faculty" and "to develop and promote cooperation among academic, private, and public sector researchers."

"The academic environment the way we see it here does not really exist back home and that's what we're trying to promote," said Hakobyan. "We provide data ... and are trying to make [sources] user friendly and put them on our website."

Hakobyan's passion for economic is only compared with her love for teaching, which is the main reason she chose to pursue academia. While her first experience with American education was at big research institutions, Hakobyan stated, "I loved interactions, and where better to get that than at a liberal arts school?"

"When you explain something," she continued, "and...see in the eyes of the students that they got it, that is something all professors would agree is incred-

ibly rewarding. She was quick to add, "Midd students [] are very inquisitive, very demanding and certainly keep you on your toes all the time."

Hakobyan has derived particular pleasure from the incorporation of her research topics into the classroom environment. "It is pretty cool and students like that a lot because they can relate something theoretical to something that is happening around them."

While Hakobyan continued to emphasize her fervor for academia (when asked for the title of her favorite book she cited economist journals and Douglas A. Irwin's *Free Trade Under Fire*), for her the move to Middlebury warranted an engagement in more Vermont-specific activities.

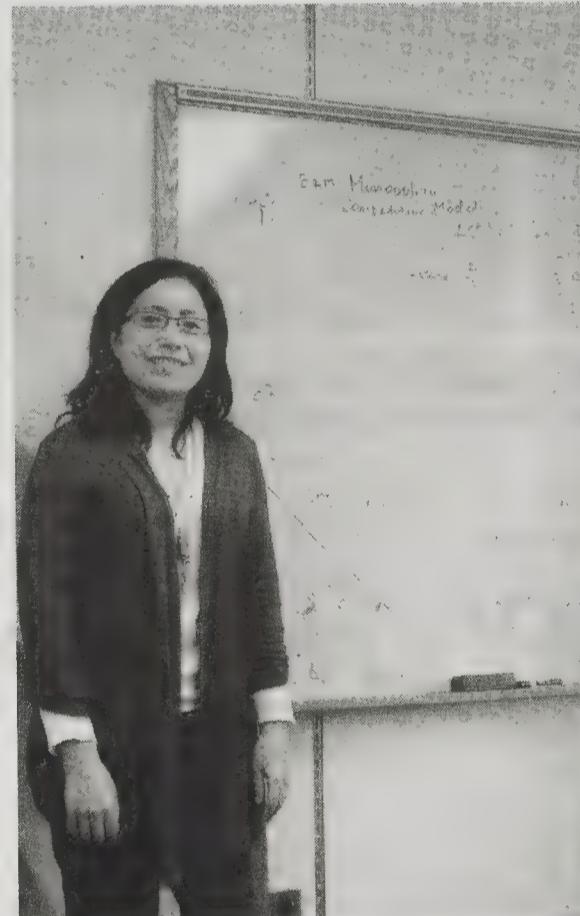
"I learned skating this winter," said Hakobyan. "I don't know any winter sports. There is no snow to learn skiing but maybe next winter we'll have more luck."

According to Hakobyan however, the move to Middlebury constituted more changes than in her hobbies.

"It's really quiet," she said. "When I first got here I realized that if you sit in your house quietly for like, a half hour, you'll fall asleep. I moved directly from D.C. which is very busy. Coming from the Virginia part of D.C. with high rises and it's really quiet here."

She also excitedly pointed out that she adopted a brown-tiger cat from the shelter this past year — Lily, the English translation of Hakobyan's first name.

"We were talking about supply and demand in class and I showed the students a picture and asked how much I would need to offer for them to cat sit for me."



PAUL GERARD

Visiting Professor of Economics Shushanik Hakobyan seeks to defy the so-called "brain-drain," putting her research to work in her home nation, Armenia.

## Food for thought: the ins and outs of avocados (get 'em while you can)



In the spirit of all the avocados in the dining halls, I decided to dedicate an article solely to avocados. So here's a wee bit of a history, some nutritional information and the best way to eat them! I'm sure some people have already come up with some crazy concoctions with dining hall ingredients (peanut butter + avocado + applesauce?). While I'm all for creativity, I'm also a food purist, so you won't see any recipes or combinations too crazy from me.

First, some fun biology. Let's start with the basics:

avocados are fruit that grow on trees; botanically speaking, the avocado is a "berry" that contains a seed (the pit). Did you know that avocados are in the same plant family as cinnamon and bay leaves? Like almost any fruit or vegetable, there are tons of varieties of avocados (up to 80!). You probably have noticed that the avocados in the dining hall are different from the "typical" avocado (the Haas, grown in California) we see at the grocery store. They are significantly larger and are called Choquette avocados (or Florida avocados) and, as their name suggests, they are primarily grown in Florida.

So where were avocados first grown? Perhaps this will come as no surprise. Avocados originated in Mexico and are grown throughout Central and South America. They were particularly popular because of their fat content, which made them especially filling. In fact, most people cite the Aztecs as the creator of guacamole (the origin of the word "guacamole" comes from an Aztec word that means "avocado sauce"). Thank you, Aztecs!

Nutritionally speaking, avocados are highly regarded. They're mostly known for good fats, good fats, good fats. But in addition to being a great source of unsaturated

fats, they also have small amounts of many essential vitamins and minerals, particularly vitamins C and K. Bet you didn't think that an avocado has almost as much vitamin C as an orange! They are also very high in fiber (something I didn't know until just now).

So what to do with these guys? Personally, I know it's a little boring, but my favorite way to eat an avocado is with a little bit of salt and lime juice. In Ross? Use the high quality sea salt at the salad bar. Sea salt is much better both nutritionally and your taste buds will be happier too. Add it on top of a salad, and it's an easy no-mistake meal.

If you're feeling a bit more adventurous, I suggest going with Mexican flavors and ingredients — lime juice, cumin, black beans, tomato/salsa. It's also delicious in a sandwich or wrap — the creaminess will add a great texture.

*Kate Strangfeld '12 is a culinary school graduate and current chef/co-manager of Crossroads Café. She also has her own personal cooking and food/policy news blog, *Icing off the Cake*.*

## GLOBE MED UPDATE

The month of April is both busy and important for Middlebury's chapter of GlobeMed. In addition to its inclusion of two of our biggest events of the year, the 51 Main benefit dinner and the 5K race, this month also marks the WHO's annual World Health Day and the International Day of Remembrance for the Rwandan Genocide.

This year's World Health Day's motto was "good health adds life to years." The fact is that within the next five years, the number of adults aged 65 and over will outnumber children under the age of five. By 2050, these older adults will out-

number all children under the age of 14. With this in mind, GlobeMed placed flyers across campus to both celebrate the holiday and encourage the community to engage in healthy practices for a healthier life.

April 7 marked the 18th anniversary of the Rwandan genocide, where ethnic tensions incited the murder of approximately 800,000 men, women, and children in just 100 days. The brevity of this period, in combination with the nature of the killings, mostly at close range with machetes and clubs, is representative of the degree of this harrowing disaster.

Our chapter has put together an informational video commemorating the event to be found at <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lDEPxDxoIu&feature=youtu.beGlobeMed>.

The knowledge of this recent humanitarian disaster is of particular importance to our chapter because our partner is Gardens for Health International, a nonprofit devoted to improving the health and living conditions of people affected by HIV/AIDS in Rwanda. Middlebury's connection to Gardens for Health International extends beyond the members of GlobeMed to the greater community who attends our events, contributes to our fundraisers, or even reads this article.

On that note, we would like to take the opportunity to advertise our two impending fundraising events. On the evening of Friday, April 13, GlobeMed will hold a benefit dinner at 51 Main. Complete with live music and a delicious menu, this will be a great opportunity for students, faculty and staff to enjoy a Friday night out while benefiting our project with GHI in Rwanda. Tickets will be available at the door for \$30 if you want dinner and \$15 if you prefer to just enjoy the music. If you prefer to go for a morning jog, sign up for our 5K race through campus on Saturday, April 21. Tickets can be purchased either ahead of time at the box office or on the Proctor Terrace the day of the race. Either way, 100% of proceeds will go towards our projects with Gardens for Health International on this summer's trip to Rwanda.

GlobeMed at Middlebury encourages you to think of health in a month marked by both World Health Day, a celebration of healthcare gains reflected in global life expectancy, and the International Day of Remembrance for the Rwandan Genocide, a lesson on the impact of human atrocities.

In addition to their bi-monthly column, GlobeMed at Middlebury keeps a blog, which you can find at [go/globemed](http://go/globemed) or <http://blogs.middlebury.edu/globemed>.

# SmartPower selects Katie Romanov '11.5 in America's Next Eco-Star competition

By Alex Strott

On March 16, Katie Romanov '11.5 received a phone call from SmartPower, one of the nation's leading non-profit marketing firms dedicated to energy efficiency and clean energy, informing her that she had been awarded the title of America's Next Eco-Star, a contest sponsored by SmartPower and the U.S. Department of Energy to unveil the next generation of energy leaders. Romanov was shocked upon hearing the news that she had won out among 130 other college/university students who had been nominated by their institutions across the country. Approximately 15,000 electronic votes had helped place her in the top 10 a few weeks earlier from which SmartPower selected the top five (and of which Romanov was the only female and the only liberal arts student). From this point, a group of representatives from the U.S. Department of Energy, SmartPower and the Sustainable Futures Academy in Austria chose the overall winner based on essays submitted by the final contestants.

Since receiving that initial phone call, Romanov has only begun to reap the benefits of her award. On March 30, she visited the SmartPower office in Washington, D.C., to receive her official Eco-Star certification and meet the colleagues she will be working with during her summer fellowship there — another part of her prize as Eco-Star. During her time as a fellow, Romanov will also enjoy an all-expenses paid trip to the Sustainable Futures Academy, a summit on sustainability in higher education as part of the Salzburg Global Seminar in Austria, where she hopes to meet others like herself who are keen to approach environmental education in new and alternative ways.

Also as part of the EcoStar award, the College has been granted \$1000 towards the Sustainability Integration Office, and President Ronald D. Liebowitz has been invited to attend the Sustainable Futures Academy alongside Romanov as well.

Romanov first submitted her nomination video on Jan. 31 this year, but her journey toward becoming America's Next Eco-Star

started long before that date. Romanov grew up on a 54-acre farm in rural Pennsylvania, and it was here that she says her interest in the environment first started to bloom. During high school, she spent a semester abroad at the Island School, a sustainability program in the Bahamas where students learn to compost their food, garden, keep tabs on on-site wind and solar energy and generate biodiesel from used vegetable oil discarded from cruise ships. The Island School is where Romanov says she became inspired to implement basic changes in her local community once returning home. She was also pleased to see Middlebury faculty help coordinate a conference on the island last year called "Putting Schools to Work," where she had the opportunity to present some of her accomplishments to other aspiring environmental studies students.

During her last two years at Middlebury, Romanov served as the communications and outreach coordinator for the Solar Decathlon team and made it possible for her department to win first place in the communications division. Her duties included spreading the word about Middlebury's Solar Decathlon house, Self-Reliance (named after an essay by Ralph Waldo Emerson on questioning the status quo), and educating the public on the appeal and accessibility of green buildings. Romanov's team attended conferences in Chicago and the Bahamas, directed hands-on green building activities with school groups, updated an active website and blog for the project and raised \$600,000 along the way.

"The process turned out to be extraordinarily refreshing and rewarding — it was a chance to apply our theoretical education to a real world project and produce something more tangible than an essay," said Romanov of her experience with Solar Decathlon. "Throughout the two-year duration of Solar Decathlon 2011, I learned more about teamwork, perseverance and problem-solving than from any life experience, let alone assignment."

Romanov's experience with Solar Decathlon and her responsibilities as a leader on the team were a large part of what made her eli-

gible to become America's Next Eco-Star, but the extent of what she has done for sustainability within the Middlebury community does not end there.

Over the course of her final semester at Middlebury, Romanov founded two new student organizations on campus. The first is a student chapter of the U.S. Green Building Council, the organization that oversees Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) building certifications. The student chapter at Middlebury is responsible for assessing the energy efficiency of existing campus facilities and pushing for the incorporation of green building policies in future projects, such as the field house.

The next organization Romanov founded is Sprout, a collection of Middlebury students who work collaboratively with local K-12 students doing hands-on environmental and sustainable activities.

Another one of Romanov's recent independent projects has been her work on a proposal for the Curriculum Committee to add an energy focus within the environmental studies program. As an environmental studies major with a focus in policy, Romanov feels that an interdisciplinary energy track within this major would be a reasonable addition to the 13 foci that already exist.

Currently, Romanov has her hands deep in networking, developing her own work and figuring out where she wants to go come August when her fellowship expires. Since her graduation, she has attended the National Green Schools Conference, the Vail Global Energy Summit and the Opening Plenary Ses-

sion for the Clinton Global Initiative University, where she met with 1200 other students from around the world to discuss their respective environmental and humanitarian efforts. Here, she was able to hear from founder Bill Clinton, Madeleine Albright, Usher, Jon Stewart, Sean Penn and other public figures.

In the next few weeks, Romanov will be launching her website CampusEnergy.com, which will serve as a hub for students and staff to learn how they can become actively



COURTESY

involved in energy systems at their schools. In the long term, she says her dream is to pursue her passion of environmental education, making it the norm for students across the country to learn about energy sources, distribution, efficiency, consumption and management of the systems on their very own campuses.

Having been featured on SmartPower's website, the *Huffington Post* and *Vibrant Vermonters* and receiving opportunities left and right since she first started the process of becoming America's Next Eco-Star, what might be most impressive about Romanov is her ability to keep her head on her shoulders and remain so humbled throughout the past few months.

"Never underestimate the importance of being polite and giving a firm handshake with good eye contact," said Romanov. "You never know how somehow you are even casually chatting with might be able to help you or connect you with someone else who can."

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A preview of the  
upcoming play, *The  
Imaginary Invalid*  
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# ARTS & SCIENCES

The Middlebury Campus

## Spring theater season begins: Senior work *Stop Kiss* performed at Zoo



COURTESY

ABOVE: Actors Callie (Hallie Woods '12) and Peter (Joshua Taylor '12) sit in the waiting room of a hospital, anticipating their visit to an unconscious Sara. Peter, Sara's ex-boyfriend, will soon learn the truth of how Sara came to be attacked.

LEFT: Sara (Emma Eastwood-Paticchio '15) and Callie consult the dubious advice of a Magic 8-Ball. The fortune-telling toy features prominently in the early parts of the play, as it provides the women with vague answers to their questions about their growing relationship.

By Deirdre Sackett

This past weekend, *Stop Kiss* ran in the Hepburn Zoo from April 5-7, kicking off this year's season of spring theater productions. Written by Diana Son and directed by Blake Lee Clay-McBee '12 for her senior 700 work, *Stop Kiss* split its focus between the growing relationship between two women and the aftermath of a vicious attack on one of the women.

The early parts of the play center around Callie (Hallie Woods '12, 700 work), a television station traffic reporter living a mundane life in New York City. She and her on-again-off-again friend-with-benefits, George (Jeremy Kallan '14), have been "together" for quite some time, and Callie even mentions they might as well get married one day. Callie has recently offered to take care of Caesar, a cat belonging to newcomer Sara (Emma Eastwood-Paticchio '15).

Sara has just moved to the city because she won a fellowship to teach at a school in the Bronx, to Callie's initial snarky amusement. Yet Sara's joy for teaching inner city children is genuine — coming from an upper-class St. Louis neighborhood, Sara yearns for a change of pace, prompting her to move to New York City. Sara also attempts to convince Callie that her own life is exciting — after all, she does get to fly around in a helicopter all day to spot the traffic.

After a few scenes detailing the women's growing friendship, the mood of the play suddenly turns dark after a scene shift. Callie now

sits in a chair, holding her stomach as if in pain, and is being interrogated by a detective about an attack on her and Sara. After some coaxing, Callie explains that the attacker saw her and Sara kissing on a park bench late at night, and he beat Sara into a coma when the two women refused his advances. After this charging scene, the play shifts focus between the growing, shy, uncertain love that grows between the two women before the attack and Callie's visitations to the hospital to see the unresponsive Sara.

During the scenes in Callie's apartment that highlight the growing relationship, Sara comes over frequently to visit and the sexual tension ramps up with each scene. Sara usually comes over bearing wine, and the two women usually end up joking around or going clubbing with each other. In one particularly funny and heartwarming scene, Callie attempts to make dinner for her and Sara, complete with a makeshift "table-for-two" setup in her tiny apartment, but the food turns out so vile that Callie has to hide her dinner setup before Sara comes over.

Moments like these highlighted the affection the women felt for each other, though their growing love seemed a little sudden after just barely becoming friends. It is also unclear if these two women had ever experienced same-sex attraction before — Callie has had her male friend-with-benefits around for many years, and Sara has an ex-boyfriend in St. Louis.

However, it is vaguely implied that Sara

is at least aware of the lesbian scene in New York City, since she suggests later on that she and Callie go to a lesbian club.

In the "post-attack" scenes, Sara's condition begins to improve and she regains some consciousness. Her ex-boyfriend Peter (Joshua Taylor '12) comes to visit and helps take care of her, but tells her he has no future with her. He does vow to take her back home to St. Louis, an idea which the conscious yet non-verbal Sara clearly detests; it is a testament to Eastwood-Paticchio's acting ability to convey these emotions while remaining completely silent. Meanwhile, Callie's frustration, confusion, anger and embarrassment come to a head as the nurse (Michelle Irei '15) suggests that she help bathe and dress Sara.

At first, Callie denies her love for Sara and the fact that she herself may be a lesbian — she expresses her embarrassment that, by covering the story of the attack, her own news station has routed her out as a lesbian. But soon Callie realizes that Sara needs her more than ever now, and that Sara gives her joy in her otherwise mundane life.

The final hospital scene shows Callie's decision to finally dress Sara, and she tells her that she will be there to take care of her, demonstrating the change of character that Callie's character so desperately needed all along. Rightfully, the last scene of the play shows the much-anticipated kiss between Callie and Sara, right before the attack occurs.

The set, designed by Amy Doucette '12, was spot-on as a small, slightly messy New

York apartment belonging to a 20-something. The couch where most of Callie and Sara's interactions took place filled most of the center-left stage, behind which stood a large industrial-looking window that gave the audience glimpses of the weather outside. The sound designer (Cynthia Wang '12) and technical director's (Amanda Powers '12) work was equally as impressive; rain droplets announced bad weather, the beeping of the heart monitor signaled the shift to hospital scenes and interludes between scenes were speckled with '90s music.

Woods's portrayal of Callie captured her insecure, self-doubting nature, and toward the end of the play, her keen ability to open up her character and realize Callie's inner strength really became evident. Similarly, Eastwood-Paticchio easily demonstrated Sara's eagerness toward befriending and spending time with Callie with the boundless enthusiasm she put into her character — she is certainly an actress to keep an eye on in future performances. With their individual acting talents, Woods' and Eastwood-Paticchio's characters served as great foils to each other.

By highlighting the discrepancies between their characters' personalities, these two actresses were able to make the final scenes of Calie's emotional resignation even more poignant. The kiss scene at the end of the play was the perfect way to end the play — tying together the two entwining storylines with a glimmer of hope for the continuation of their healthy and loving relationship.

### DON'T MISS THIS

#### The Imaginary Invalid

This new production is an exploration of the tragedy of Molière's final hours and the ironic parallel of two realities that crash together in an explosion of Latin, disease, love and death. Directed by Jay Dunn '00.5. Tickets \$6.

4/12 - 14 8 P.M., WRIGHT MEMORIAL THEATRE

#### SEPOMANA

Get ready for WRMC's annual Spring music festival featuring The Felice Brothers (a folk/country/rock band from upstate New York), Sandro Perri (post rock/ambient DJ) and Big Troubles (indie pop). Tickets \$5.  
4/13, 8 P.M., MCCULLOUGH SOCIAL SPACE

#### The Pavel Haas Quartet

The Pavel Haas quartet return to the College with a program that includes Tchaikovsky's String Quartet No. 1 in D Major, Op. 11, the Shostakovich String Quartet No. 7 in F-sharp Minor, Op. 108 and Schubert's Death and the Maiden. Free.

4/13, 8 P.M., MCFA CONCERT HALL

## Alumni director and students bring Molière to life

By Alan Sutton

This weekend, the Middlebury College Theatre Department presents a highly energized and modernized take on *The Imaginary Invalid*, a dark comedy by Molière that, even its original form, intrigues its audience with a wonderful dose of the uncanny and illogical. Visiting director and Middlebury alum Jay Dunn '00.5 and his ensemble of student actors offer a thorough reworking of the classic script, recreated through a long process of physical and improvisational experiment, that will serve as a fresh and exciting touch to the Middlebury theater experience.

*The Imaginary Invalid* is the story of a rich and charmingly crooked old man, Argan, who is convinced that he is on the verge of death — a hypochondriac who uses his massive fortune to keep a dedicated doctor and apothecary close by his side. He has plans to rearrange his medical staff by means of marrying off his eldest daughter, Angélique. Meanwhile, Angélique's step-mother has personal motives for messing with Argan's plans, while the fiend of a housemaid, Toinette, balances the flamboyant characters of the household, ensuring that only the deceitful and deserving personalities slip and shatter.

However, do not expect language similar to the play's 1673 premiere. Dunn has worked with his cast of actors for more than 15 hours a week throughout the semester to modernize this piece. After graduating from Middlebury College, Dunn studied at L'École Jacques Lecoq

in Paris, and has used this extensive rehearsal process to share a curious brand of highly physical theater with current Middlebury students.

The first two weeks of the rehearsal process were "no script, no story. Just training," said Dunn, clearly wanting to offer a "new skill set for the actors."

Sarah Lusche '13, who plays one of Argan's younger twin daughters, offered some details on this initial training.

"Physically be this element!" Lusche said, describing how Dunn would have the ensemble physi- calize fire, rushing water, still, glistening water or solid granite, as well as a wide range of animals. This contributes to a product, and surely a process that is "very different from what the department usually does," Lusche said. "The script has been evolving since the beginning. Blocking has been changing. Lines have changed."

Dunn admitted that he sent the final version of the script to his cast during spring break.

"I wanted to write something with the student, he said. "My goal was to give the actors a sense of ownership ... I was coming in without a finished product."

Even with these complications, Dunn was impressed with the students he worked with.

"They've worked their a\*\*es off. In some ways, these students are working like a professional company," Dunn said.

This interpretive work was evident in the cast's Sunday evening rehearsal. The performance did not distort the amusing, cruelly ironic story that Molière crafted while dying of tuberculosis himself, but, like the bitters of any good cocktail, intensify some selected nuances. Those familiar with the piece can expect some curious tweaks and kinks to the archetypal characters, while new audiences should be delighted with the mix of contemporary humour and Old World habits.

Shannon Fiedler '14 expressed a bubbling enthusiasm for playing the mischievous Toinette.

"I absolutely love my character — she's so fiesty and smart! And just generally fun — so I've just been working really hard to do her justice," she said.

Fiedler's energy saw her appear almost cartoon-like in a clever mixed-period costume by Emily Jacke '13 on stage during Sunday's rehearsal.

This is definitely the most exhausting show I've ever been in, so I'd say my biggest challenge is finding time to rest so I can have full energy to bolt around stage," Fiedler said. "I cannot wait to see how an audience reacts to this play. It is very different from anything I've seen performed here before, and I think people will be shocked and surprised at what they see."

*The Imaginary Invalid* runs April 12 - 14 at 8 p.m. and Saturday afternoon at 2 p.m. in Wright Memorial Theatre.

## FOR THE RECORD

BY ZACH BLAIR

There are certain names that all Middlebury students should know. Most of us recognize the heavyweights, like 1823 alumnus Alexander Twilight, Eve Ensler '75 and Ari Fleischer '82. Some of our more — shall we say, temporally endowed? — peers may even be familiar with GPS inventor Roger L. Easton or Georgian Prime Minister Vladimir Gurgenidze.

But one name often goes overlooked: Anaïs Mitchell '04. Mitchell, who was mysteriously missing from the "Notable Alumni" section of the Middlebury Wikipedia page until I updated it about 10 minutes ago, has been crafting exquisite folk songs for about a decade now and has just released her fifth full-length LP, *Young Man in America*.

Following the success of her 2010 album *Hadestown*, an epic retelling of the Orpheus and Eurydice myth set in Depression-era America and featuring guest appearances by Justin Vernon and Ani DiFranco (yes, it's as mind-blowing as it sounds), *Young Man in America* faced stratospheric expectations.

Although Mitchell has narrowed her scope since that 20-song folk opera, she's lived up to the hype with an album as startlingly beautiful and emotionally affecting as its predecessor. Inspired in part by the recent economic recession, *Young Man in America* traces themes of loss, vulnerability, and struggle through 11 intimate and rustic folk songs. It's not quite a concept album, but it loosely follows a young American seeking pleasure and success in what Mitchell deems "an every man for himself frontier country" where "there's not a lot of trust that you will be taken care of." Welcome to the new America.

The results of such an ambitious work are heart-wrenching. "Coming Down" features a lonesome piano and Mitchell's warm vocals espousing a fragile "nothing's gonna stop me now." "Anmarie," a young man's desperate plea for a lover's mercy, couples soft humming with strings to produce a tired, melancholy yawn, as if the strain of the relationship is too much to bear for the protagonist. And then there's "Shepherd," the gorgeous narrative of a farmer whose wife dies in childbirth while he's bailing hay. If your heart is still beating in your chest at the end of "Shepherd" and not lying on the floor in a puddle, you're doing something wrong. Throughout *Young Man*, Mitchell's storytelling ability, knack for melody, and, of course, her squeaky coo make for an album as sad and vulnerable as it is tender and charming.

The beauty of Mitchell's critique of American society is its subtlety. *Young Man in America* is not an Occupy Wall Street protestor screaming for reform; it's simply a brief series of portraits of American life that are at once traditional and contemporary. There is less genre-bending here than on *Hadestown*, but that's not necessarily a bad thing.

In fact, the themes of American loss and vulnerability revel in and demand folk music as a medium. An extraordinary album that rewards repeated listens, *Young Man in America* ranks among the best works of art to come out of the recession so far and seems cause enough to celebrate Anaïs Mitchell as one of the big names to pass through the

## ONE LIFE LEFT

BY CHAPIN BOYER

One of the nicest things about gaming in America is that we get to buy games from almost every corner of the globe. French driving titles, moody Russian shooters, off-beat English adventure games — the list that we are graced with goes on. Unfortunately, not all of these fantastic titles see the light of day in countries other than their own. Game production is expensive and sometimes the risk of bringing a license to a new market simply is not worth the cost.

Until recently, this was the fate of Namco's *Tales of Graces*. It was released as a Wii exclusive in Japan, and is now being given a run in America on the PS3 with the name *Tales of Graces F*. No, I don't know what the F stands for.

The *Tales* series, as it is often known, is a series of Japanese roleplaying games that take place in different universes with a variety of spunky young characters often fighting some kind of evil authority figure or group. If that sounds a lot like *Final Fantasy* to any of you JRPG fans, that is because it is a

lot like *Final Fantasy*. Both games have long winded cut scenes featuring characters with complicated backstories, motivations and personalities. Both games tend to have deep, often confusing combat and a variety of systems that an experienced player can take advantage of to create powerful weapons and characters.

Here, however, the similarities end. While the two series are both emblematic of trends in the JRPG world, *Tales* takes a much different approach to its gameplay by focusing on action, and oddly enough, cooperative play.

The *Tales* series has always had a kind of fighting game style of combat. When the player encounters a monster in the overworld they are transported to an arena where they can duke it out with the four characters they have selected for their party. Players control any of these characters in real time and use different button and joystick combos to execute powerful

attacks. The fighting is fast-paced and filled with myriad flashing numbers and words to keep you entertained. The lack of random encounters and the swiftness of the combat allow the game to pace itself quite nicely, never forcing you to fight too often or for too long. Due to the complexity of the game's combat and crafting systems, I will not go into too much further detail here.

Instead I will simply recommend that anyone with even a passing interest in action RPGs check this game out.

By far the most interesting part of the game is that it has four player co-op, and that this feature has been a staple in the *Tales* games for quite a while. "Co-op? In a story-focused JRPG? Ludicrous," I hear you cry over the clack of my keys.

But it is true, and not only does it exist, but it is my new favorite way to play these games. The best way to describe it is that it is like watching a TV show with your friends, but every now

and again you get to kill stuff while doing it. Leaning back in my chair and exchanging witty banter with a friend about the main character's fabulous white jacket (by the way, the main character has a fabulous white jacket) while listening to the characters discuss life and one's purpose in the world is surprisingly entertaining.

The story, obviously the main draw for most, is so far excellent. The game is over 80 hours long, so beating it is quite the commitment, but I think I might. Every character is so well written and even though I have yet to encounter the main conflict of the game (thus far I have been following the main character's journey to find purpose in the world) I am continuously curious about what is going to happen next.

This game is an incredibly well done JRPG. It has all of the charm and depth that the story could need mixed with fantastic combat. If that sounds good to you, I cannot recommend *Tales of Graces F* enough. If that doesn't sound good to you then I command you on reading past the words "like *Final Fantasy*."

### THE IMAGINARY INVALID

THURSDAY-SATURDAY

4/12-4/14

WRIGHT MEMORIAL  
THEATRE

\$6 FOR STUDENTS

### WRMC SEPOMANA

FRIDAY

4/13

MCCULLOUGH SOCIAL  
SPACE

\$5 FOR EVERYONE

### SENIOR DANCE

THESIS CONCERT

FRIDAY-SATURDAY

4/20-4/21

CFA DANCE THEATRE

\$6 FOR STUDENTS

### WALE: MCAB SPRING

CONCERT

SATURDAY

4/21

\$15 NOW

\$20 AT THE DOOR

### BUS TICKETS

END OF YEAR

NYC, BOSTON

BURLINGTON

(AIRPORT, BUS STATION)

# BOOKING IT



BY HALLIE WOODS

I was told to read and review this book by two of my friends. Knowing these friends, I began reading with a touch of trepidation. After all, when the back cover boasts a quote from Joss Whedon (if you don't know who that is, you should) saying, "I think this book ate my soul," one wonders what one has gotten oneself into. With *Crooked Little Vein*, I found myself instantly submerged into a gritty, disgusting world where the good guys were relatively repulsive people and the bad guys were simply unspeakable. And that was only in the first chapter.

Warren Ellis's novel looks like an easy read at first glance, and I will admit, the chapters have a large amount of white space on the page and a distinct lack of elevated language or style. However, I still found myself slowing down to process the set of horrid images being laid out before me. At its heart, the book is a detective novel, and yet it deals in a world so dark and sexually perverse that it is unlike anything I've ever read before. Half of the things the protagonist, Mike McGill, encounters during his search for the secret alternative Constitution of the United States (yup, I did just say that) I hadn't even heard of before, nor do I really ever want to hear about again. This is not a novel for the easily offended. And yet somehow, despite these scenes I've alluded to that were so mind-numbingly sick, I found myself thoroughly enjoying this book. There is something about McGill's cynical look on life and darkly humorous take on the way his hunt plays out that is endearing and downright compelling. As much as I didn't want to go deeper into the underbelly of American culture, I couldn't tear my eyes away. Once you read the novel you will understand the irony of that last statement.

## CROOKED LITTLE VEIN

Warren Ellis

Of course, like any great novel there must be a romance, and it is here that Ellis begins to lose steam. McGill tries desperately not to fall for his young assistant Trix, a deviant student writing her thesis on extremes of self-inflicted human experience. The two team up against McGill's better judgment and soon begin their completely unbelievable affair. There is some buildup to the sexual tension between the two characters, which could hardly have been avoided given Trix's blatant sexuality and disregard for social norms, but the emotional strength between them seems to come out of nowhere. It is an idealized relationship, created to perhaps juxtapose the world of lies, mistrust and corruption that the two find themselves thrown into, but nevertheless, one that will cause readers like myself to groan a bit and then push onward into the novel, choosing to ignore poor romantic plotting in favor for the vivid character descriptions that are Ellis's forte.

I don't think I've come across a novel where the characters were described in such unconventional detail. Ellis has created people who we never encounter in real life but somehow believe in while reading because they are detailed in such a truthful manner. He is not simply saying the man had blue eyes and blonde hair, but instead concentrates on the eccentricities and subconscious patterns that only a detective would truly pick up on. When the Chief of Staff of the United States describes himself as having opium lesions on his brain and as being the closest thing to God that this country will ever see, you know you're in for an interesting read.

So I suppose what I'm telling you all is that if you can get over the more unbelievable aspects of the story and then wade through the veritable pool of filth and vulgarity, you will find yourself compelled to keep reading this novel and fully taken along for the ride.

By Eliza Wallace

Color photography is both more accessible and less accessible than other artistic mediums. The audience sees a snapshot of something from their real world, and even if it is blurred light, we feel close to understanding that moment because it is a closer approximation of the reality we see. But viewing a photograph does not mean one automatically knows the story behind the scene, or the story of the photographer herself. The worlds we see in photos can be unexpected, overlooked or hidden, so our encounter is even more complex than when we try to approach an abstract sculpture — the experience is unsettling when something we thought was familiar seems like alien territory and seems to hold stories to which we don't necessarily know the endings. These are some of the wonderfully surprising results of photographs from Professor of Studio Art John Huddleston's Color Photography class, exhibited in the Johnson pit gallery from April 5 - 12.

From a cupcake oozing sucrose, to a grinning pot-bellied pig, to a plate of ripe bananas, to a blur of falling snow at night (Cynthia Wang '12, Milou Lammer '15, Sophia Gubernick '14 and Cha Tori '13, respectively), the photographs span a wide range of content, mood and tone.

"We started out learning basic operating techniques with the cameras — how to manipulate aperture, shutter speed, ISO, etc. ... we went over Photoshop basics as well," said Annie Ulrich '13. "If there's an effect we want but don't know how to get it — that's when Professor Huddleston helps out."

One eerie photograph by Andrew Podrygula '12 is of a dim hospital room, awash in sickly green light, featuring a girl seated in a wheelchair, tilting her head with a concerned expression on her face beneath a "Get Well!" balloon lurking against the wall. The effect of Podrygula's hospital shot is disquieting — a combination of the green light, oddly blurred movements and elements within the frame make for a photograph rife with emotion.

Ulrich's displayed pictures include an overhead shot of her sister and dog stretched out on the floor, an expanse of dirt criss-crossed with tractor tracks and ruts and the play of red lights in two different places — car lights in the Lincoln Tunnel in New York and the bar lights of Two Brothers Tavern in Middlebury.

"I'm interested in the beauty of landscapes and objects around me, but the photos I've taken that have been the most striking to me have been of people or completely abstract," Ulrich said. When asked about the challenges faced in Huddleston's class, she noted, "I think anyone with a nice camera can take a pretty photo. What's been challenging about the class has been moving beyond just that and taking a picture that is striking in both its beauty and content."

In photography, the story within the frame often usurps consideration of the photographer's story. The audience wonders where Tara Quinn's '13 sun-glossed road leads — we usually forget to wonder if Quinn decided to walk down the road. This perhaps gives the photographer more freedom and more responsibility. He or she becomes the eyes that can pick out the highly charged subject matter, but not the characters in the stories he or she snaps. It takes a second look, a deeper reflection upon the pieces in the exhibit to realize the obvious — these scenes struck a chord in the photographer first, compelling him or her to secure that scene, so clearly there is authorial attachment to those scenes. The photographer's personal story is crucial in the trajectory of the photograph's evocations. Not all students in the class were seasoned photographers, but their decipherable degree of attachment to the content, to the pictorial narrative, made for successful photographs.

Arguably one of the most intriguing photographs was taken by Avery McNiff '12 while visiting her home over spring break.

"The material I have enjoyed working with the most is from the house in which I have grown up in Gloucester, Mass.," she said. "The most recent work ... is a portrait of my parents and their marriage focusing on objects and arrangements."

Her displayed photos show cold ar-

rangements of an old photograph, silver and wood boxes, a painting and glass trinkets all on a dresser, as well as rumpled bed sheets and a captivating scene of a faded floral armchair on gingery carpet, scattered with golf balls.

"The image of the chair and golf ball speaks to my father," McNiff said. "It's a chair by the fireplace [in which] he always sits during social gatherings and writes and works throughout the day. He's an avid golfer, overly obsessed with the sport, and uses the living room rug to practice his putting stroke when he can't make it to the course."

The simultaneous feelings of familiarity and alienation inspired by the armchair and golf balls take the viewer by storm, and stay with you as you walk away, wondering about how the balls got there or who usually sits in that chair. The power of the photograph stems from McNiff's literal and figurative exposure of her family's story, and our collective recognition of that without even knowing her specific attachment.

Some of the photographs feature people, a category that boasts the most extreme variation between incredibly intriguing or quotidian content. The populated photos that work present a story behind the character's eyes and stance; the ones that fail have this narrative element missing, and thus we are uninspired to extrapolate upon the world of the photo. Emma Hodge '12 succeeds in capturing a narrative in a photo of two girls — one sipping from a large, crisp beer Stein with wide eyes, the other watching from the other side of the table with an elusive expression. Their facial expressions have something more — some story behind them besides the run-of-the-mill Facebook shot. Spence Brown '14 snapped another perfect example of populated photograph that works. His picture of a man with an arm draped across an inverted boat sends a curious viewer into a frenzy of questions — who is this guy? Where is he from? Where is he going? The success of this picture is, however, hard to pin down. Perhaps a slightly different angle would have extinguished the magic. But somehow, he got it just right.

## M Gallery exhibit lights up neuroscience

By Dana Walters

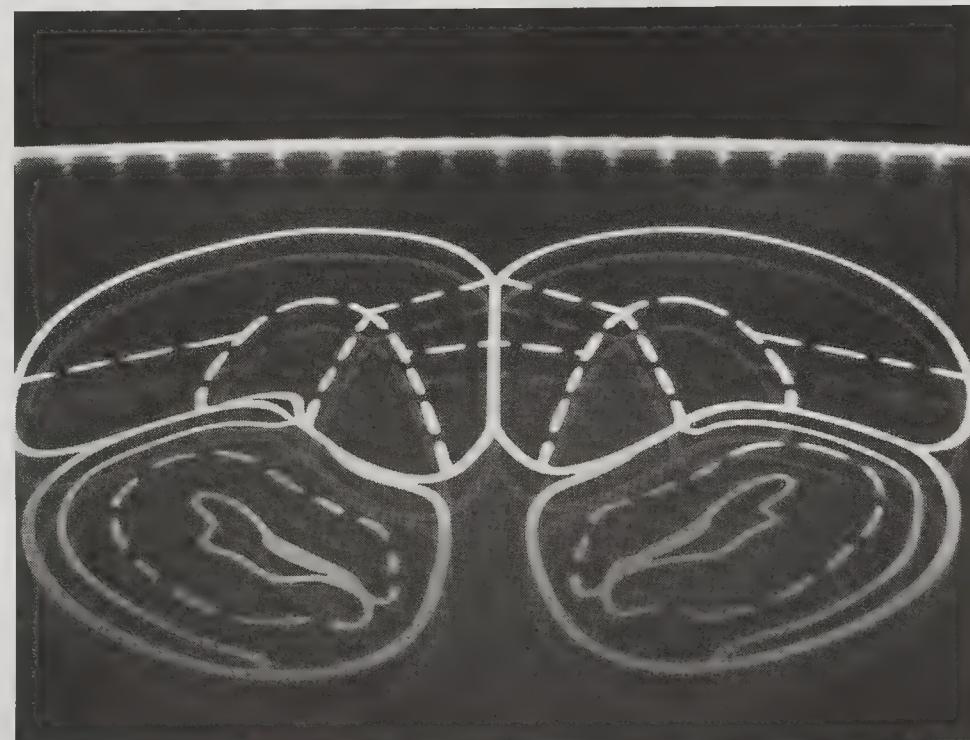
On April 14, the M Gallery in the Old Stone Mill will host Evan Masseau '11 as he opens the exhibit of his installation artwork "The Brain in Lights." The display is the culmination of a project funded by Stonehenge (now called MiddChallenge) and MiddStart, Middlebury's microphilanthropy network that allows creative students to post projects in order to garner donations from interested benefactors.

"The Brain in Lights" [is] a sculptural exploration of the brain designed to convey discoveries in the field of neuroscience in an artistic manner," says the event description for Masseau's exhibit. The neuroscience major alum used "alternative media" to make scientific concepts accessible to the general audience.

Masseau presents a variety of images illustrating the cross-sections of the brain, which together aim to create an interactive relationship between the viewer and the figures he or she sees. The exhibit centers around a rendering of "the human brain in six coronal (head-on) cross sections with accompanying labels, captions and other information," said the artist's statement on the M Gallery's website.

In the "pilot" phase of his project, Masseau used images of the rat brain to refine his methods. With a multiplicity of steps and a variety of materials, he was able to capture the complexity of the brain to enable his audience to better visualize the brain's functional brilliance. Each cross-section image was a direct adaptation from neuro-anatomical reference material. From there he transferred the image to stencil, and then to acrylic panels using sandblasting.

"When lit from the edge by LED lights the etching on the acrylic catches and refracts the light, and so the stenciled image appears to glow," he wrote in his statement. "I embedded these lights into custom-made aluminum frames to create the finished pieces. When



Evan Masseau's '11 exhibit, "The Brain in Lights," will open on April 14 in the M Gallery.

hung in a series, the viewer can see how the two-dimensional cross-sections overlap, and visualize the connections between each giving a more holistic view of the brain than traditional cross-sectional illustrations provide."

With this exhibit, Masseau, who now does neuroscience research at the National Institute of Mental Health in Bethesda, Md., aims to broaden the discourse about science and its advances, including expanding the diversity of the people involved.

"As a young neuroscience researcher, I feel that the free flow of ideas and information is integral to the advancement of society through science and research," Masseau said

in his statement. "As we continue to make discoveries at an ever-increasing rate, I think it is vital to maximize the number of people engaged in the conversation surrounding scientific progress to maintain a level of educated discourse about the societal implications of those breakthroughs. To achieve this goal, we need more diverse means for people to interact with science in order to appeal to people of all ages, educational backgrounds and learning styles."

Masseau's "The Brain in Lights" will open on Friday, April 14, in M Gallery, where light refreshments will be served from 6-8 p.m., and stay on display until April 28.

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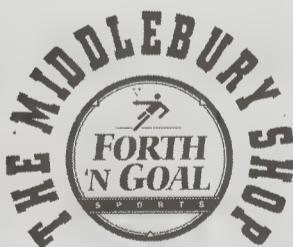
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# Baseball team falls to 8-8, have lost four of last five

CONTINUED FROM 24

'12 single and a Dylan Sinnickson '15 triple. With the score at 5-4 in the top of the ninth, Middlebury sent out the meat of their lineup with a chance to take the lead. However, Baine lined out and Michael Morris '13 and Zach Roeder '12 both grounded out, and the Cardinals escaped with the win.

The following day's doubleheader was an exercise in frustration for Coach Bob Smith and Middlebury baseball. In game one, Wesleyan put eight runs across in the second and third innings while holding the Panthers to only four hits on their way to a 10-1 victory. Game two was a more torturous affair, as the Cardinals scored in five separate innings and Middlebury managed just two hits in a 10-3 loss. Over the course of Saturday's disastrous doubleheader, the Panthers were outhit 22-6.

"We knew how important those

games were, so falling so hard with the team we have this year was sobering to say the least," said tri-captain Wark. "We're still trying to get the team morale back up in time for the Hamilton and Amherst series this weekend."

Middlebury will look to rebound this weekend with three games at Hamilton. A sweep of the lowly Continentals will do well in strengthening the Panthers' shot at a second consecutive NESCAC playoff bid. Last season the Panthers outscored Hamilton 19-1 in a three-game sweep.

"We need to pay more attention to detail this week and be able to string together some hits once this series starts," Wassel said. "We did a great job putting together innings and pushing runs across against Williams, and we need to return to that mindset when we travel to Hamilton on Friday. Tighter defense and more urgency on offense is our focus this week."



BRITTANY THOMAS

First-year pitcher Noah Bakker '15 delivers a pitch in Middlebury's 10-1 loss to Wesleyan. Bakker made his fourth appearance, pitching three strong innings.

## EDITORS' PICKS



DAMON HATHEWAY (48-40, .545)



DILLON HUPP (107-93, .535)



OWEN TEACH (17-15, .531)



KATIE SIEGNER (81-93, .466)



ALEX EDEL (63-73, .463)

**Will the baseball team score more or less than 30 total runs in their next four games?**

**MORE**  
Hamilton has an 8.52 team ERA. Start rounding the bases.

**MORE**  
They're playing Hamilton. Enough said.

**MORE**  
The Panthers outscored Hamilton 19-1 in three games last year ... including a 1-0 victory.

**EXACTLY 30**  
It worked last time ...

**MORE**  
I think it is going to be close.

**Will the women's lacrosse team remain undefeated after their big showdown with Trinity (also undefeated) this weekend?**

**YES**  
If Trinity's squash team can't go undefeated, neither can its lacrosse team.

**YES**  
Home field advantage for the win.

**YES**  
With six players at 21+ points, I think the Panthers smoke Trinity at home.

**YES**  
They're getting things done this season.

**YES**  
With the streak that the women are on and home advantage we are sure to beat the Banthams.

**Will the men's lacrosse team end their losing streak this week with a win against Trinity or Skidmore?**

**YES**  
They've been gutting it out and the offense is starting to heat up early. My bold prediction of the year: the men's lacrosse team makes the NCAA Tournament.

**YES**  
They've been gutting it out and the offense is starting to heat up early. I see this team making NCAAs.

**YES**  
This team is too talented to keep losing, although Trinity will be another tough test.

**YES**  
It's time.

**YES**  
Let's hope so.

**Who will be the last MLB team to remain undefeated?**

**TIGERS**  
They haven't buckled under the weight of expectations. Or Prince Fielder.

**DIAMONDBACKS**  
The Tigers and Rays have to play each other, but the Diamondbacks get the Pirates at home. Yes please.

**TIGERS**  
Katie, I resent that comment. Stephen Strasburg. Bryce Harper. NL East championship on lock.

**THE METS**  
They're playing the Nationals. Come on.

**NO**  
Their chances are about as high as mine at getting a winning record by Sunday.

## PANTHER SCOREBOARD

**MEN'S LACROSSE vs. Amherst**

**12-11 L**

*The embattled Panthers lost another one-goal game despite convincingly outshooting the Jeffs, 51-33.*

**WOMEN'S TRACK & FIELD Panther Inv.**

**First**

**BASEBALL vs. Wesleyan**

**10-3 L**

*Continued strong showings by Cramer and company have led the women's team off to a fast start. The Panthers were no match for the seventh-ranked Middlebury, who edged out the win to preserve their undefeated start to the season.*

**WOMEN'S LACROSSE vs. Amherst**

**8-5 W**

*The Panthers mercy-ruled the visitors in all three games over the weekend, efficiently dispatching their opponents in five-inning contests.*

**SOFTBALL vs. Hamilton**

**8-0 W**

*The Panthers mercy-ruled the visitors in all three games over the weekend, efficiently dispatching their opponents in five-inning contests.*

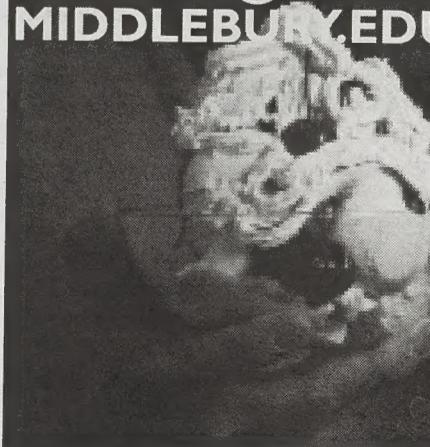
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# Men's lacrosse drops series of close contests

By Owen Teach

Following the men's lacrosse team's 12-6 comeback victory against Connecticut College almost a month ago on March 17, the Panthers seemed to have rebounded from a lopsided loss at Springfield to regain consistency. However, since that second victory of the season on St. Patrick's Day nearly four weeks ago, the squad has struggled to get on the winning side of the score sheet, dropping six consecutive games as of an April 7 home loss against Amherst.

What makes this dry spell even more painful for the team is the fact that the Panthers lost three of these games by just one goal, including both of last week's games to conference rivals Tufts (10-9) and Amherst (12-11). Now, sitting at 2-7 (2-5 in the NESCAC), the team must put past defeats behind them and finish strong in the regular season.

"We have a very good team. I know everybody on the team believes that we have the potential to be a very dangerous team down the stretch," said defenseman Zach Dayno '12. "Unfortunately we haven't executed in some close games, but if we keep working hard every day in practice we are confident that our hard work will pay off."

The losing streak began back on March 20 when the Panthers fell to Cortland State at Alumni Stadium by a final score of 15-5. Cortland used a 7-0 run in the second quarter to put the game out of reach, as a hat trick by Tim Cahill '12 was unable to swing momentum in Middlebury's favor.

The Panthers then dropped three more close conference games over spring break,

falling to Wesleyan, Hamilton and Bowdoin. While Wesleyan won by a comfortable margin, both Hamilton and Bowdoin barely edged out Middlebury, with final scores of 7-6 and 9-7, respectively. In light of these results, Dayno stressed the need for consistency.

"We have to play a complete game," said Dayno. "Lacrosse is a back-and-forth game and there are going to be ups and downs. If we play our game for 60 minutes we will be successful."

While the Panthers were unable to find a win in their two games after break, last week's games certainly provided the home crowd with excitement. Tufts and Amherst, both teams that Middlebury lost to in the postseason last season — the Jumbos in the NESCAC Championship and the Lord Jeffs in the NCAA Tournament — held off furious Middlebury second half charges to beat the Panthers, but not before the home team showed some firepower.

Tufts led Middlebury 8-3 in the third quarter before a 7-2 run to close the game by the Panthers, led by Stew Kerr '13 and Jack Balaban '12, leaving the Panthers within one at 10-9. However, two late possessions did not result in the final goal for the Panthers, as they fell by that score.

On Saturday, a 5-1 run for the Panthers starting at the 3:04 mark of the third quarter, this time led by Erich Pfeffer '13 and Kerr, found them again knocking on the door with a man advantage with a minute left in the game. The Lord Jeffs held off the Panthers, nevertheless, and won the game 12-11.

"I think we did a much better job against



ANDREW PODRYGULA

Erich Pfeffer '13 challenges an Amherst defender during Middlebury's 12-11 home loss to the Lord Jeffs on Saturday. The Panthers now have lost six straight games.

Amherst coming out strong and competing from the first whistle," said Dayno. "We need to carry this into the next game and focus on competing for 60 minutes."

In order to do this, the Panthers must improve both goal differentials in the first three quarters and shooting percentage. The Panthers are at minus-27 through three quarters while plus-11 in the final frame, meaning that they have struggled to find their offensive rhythm until late in contests.

"I think we did a much better job against Amherst coming out strong and competing from the first whistle. We need to carry this

into the next game and focus on competing for 60 minutes," said Dayno.

Middlebury's opponents are also running at a .276 shot percentage, while the Panthers are only at .201.

"Shooting is something we have been working on all year," commented Dayno. "As a team it's something we know we have to improve on and we are working hard to do that, both during practice and taking extra time individually to get better."

The Panthers play at Trinity this coming Saturday before returning home to play Skidmore on Tuesday, April 17.

## Women's swimming competes at NCAAs

By Kevin Yochim

The week before spring break, eight members of the women's swim team headed to Indiana to compete in NCAA Division III Championships at Indiana University-Purdue University Indianapolis. They finished in 26th place among 54 scoring teams with 23 points. Emory (639) and Williams (453) placed first and second, respectively.

Middlebury got off to a fast start on day one, with the 200-yard medley relay team of Andie Tibbetts '14, Jamie Hillas '15, Maddy Berkman '15, and Ann Carpenter '15 shaving time off their NESCAC result and finishing eighth in preliminaries. Unfortunately, the team was disqualified on the anchor leg later that day in the finals. Also on Wednesday, Tibbetts placed 35th in the 50-yard freestyle with a time of 24.13 seconds.

On the second day, the Panthers earned a 22nd-place finish in the 200-yard freestyle relay with a time of 1:38.12. The school-record holding team of Tibbetts,

Hillas, Berkman and Nora Daly '13 would have placed anywhere from ninth to 16th in the 400-yard medley relay, but they were disqualified in the final leg during prelims.

"The ladies handled the disappointment exceptionally," said coach Bob Rueppel about the disqualifications in what were arguably the group's two strongest races. "I was extremely proud of the way they stuck together and moved forward."

The highlight of the third day was Tibbetts' sixth-place finish in the 100-yard backstroke with a time of 56.13 seconds, just behind her school record of 55.59, set at NESCACs this year. She earned All-American honors for her strong performance. Later in the session, Hillas finished 13th in the 100-yard breaststroke with a time of 1:04.93. Middlebury would round out the day with a 14th-place finish in the 800-yard freestyle relay, as Daly, Courtney Haron '15, Jen Friedlander '13 and Katherine Loftus '12 earned honorable mention All-

American honors with a time of 7:42.36. It was Loftus's last meet for the Panthers.

On the final day of the meet, Tibbetts earned a 21st-place finish in the 200-yard backstroke with a time of 2:04.15. The team of Daly, Ann Carpenter '15, Haron, and Tibbetts finished the meet with a 23rd-place finish in the 400-yard freestyle relay with a time of 3:36.05.

"Nationals was a learning experience for us, as the majority of the team had never been to the meet before," said Tibbetts. "We had some highs and lows but overall we had a lot of fun. We had a fantastic first season with Coach Rueppel."

The Panthers appear poised to be even faster next year, when they will bring back seven of the eight swimmers who competed in Nationals and welcome a new class of first-years.

"This program has built a solid foundation both in and out of the pool and is ready to move forward from here," said Rueppel.

## Women's tennis advances to 9-0

By Ellie Alldredge

The Middlebury women shut out Connecticut College on Friday, March 4, marking their third 9-0 consecutive win and extending their undefeated record to 9-0. Leah Kepping '13, playing at the No. 2 singles spot, wrapped up the closest match of the weekend with a decisive 6-4, 6-2 victory. At No. 3, Brittney Faber '13 defeated Connecticut College opponent Britt Cangemi, with a decisive 6-0, 6-0 win.

With a seventh place national ranking and a season record of 8-0, the Panther women had reason enough to be confident going into their match against Conn. College this past weekend. However, the team has remained faithful to their "take one match at a time" mentality, making sure to approach each match with an equal level of intensity and focus.

"We just had to keep our focus and not allow ourselves to discount them. Teams can surprise you so you need to treat every match as if it's the most important one of the season," said Alyssa Puccinelli '12.

The Middlebury women laid a strong

foundation for their Conn. College match as well as the rest of their season with an undefeated record during their trip to California over spring break. Their 5-0 finish to the week included matchups against Vanguard University, ninth-ranked Claremont-McKenna, Azusa Pacific University, 15th-ranked Pomona-Pitzer and Linfield College.

The Panthers began their week in California with a solid 8-1 win over Vanguard University. The team won five of the six singles matches in straight sets.

The women saw more competition when they faced Claremont and Azusa Pacific. At No. 1 singles against Claremont, Lok-Sze Leung '14 earned a hard-fought victory in three sets, 2-6, 6-0, 6-2.

However, Faber at the No. 4 spot and Dorrie Paradies '14 at the No. 5 singles spot as well as No. 1 doubles suffered hard losses, but the Panthers held out to clinch a 5-3 win against the Claremont Athenas.

After trailing 4-1 against Azusa Pacific, the women rallied to edge out the Cougars with a final score of 5-4. Paradies was instrumental to the Panthers' win

with her hard-earned victory in the No. 5 singles match despite losing the first set in a tie-breaker.

"In the Claremont match there was still a little bit of rust to shake off getting used to playing outside, but Azusa was a big comeback. Everyone stepped up in each of those matches," said Coach Mike Morgan of these two performances.

The women finished out their week with two consecutive 9-0 victories against Pomona-Pitzer and Linfield. Every singles match, both against Linfield and Pomona, was won in straight sets.

Against Linfield, Paradies and younger sister Katie Paradies '15 took the No. 3 doubles match 8-0, and Leung dominated at the No. 1 singles spot, finishing her match 6-0, 6-0.

Friday, March 13, the women will go up against Emory University, the second-ranked Division III women's tennis team in the nation. This is the highest ranked team the women have faced in their spring season thus far, and the matches are sure to be a good warm-up for the team's competitions against first-ranked Williams and third-ranked Amherst later this spring.

## BY THE NUMB3RS

**22** The team-leading number of hits accumulated by outfielder Dillon Sinnickson '15 over the first 16 games.

**6** The number of consecutive losses by the men's lacrosse team, which fell by a goal to Amherst in a 13-12 final.

**+24** The run differential for the softball team in a three-game sweep over the Hamilton Continentals.

**0** The number of losses the women's lacrosse team has in their first nine games.

**26** The number of runs the Red Sox allowed in a three-game sweep by the Detroit Tigers. Both the Red Sox and the Yankees started 0-3 for the first time since 1966.

## THE MIDDLEBURY GREAT GR8 EIGHT

RANKING CHANGE TEAM Siegner's Sidebar

**1** WOMEN'S LACROSSE Beatin' Amherst always gets you the number-one spot.

**2** SOFTBALL Four straight mercy rule wins: straight up domination.

**3** WOMEN'S TENNIS Improved to 9-0 with their most recent 9-0 victory.

**4** WOMEN'S TRACK AND FIELD Dominating meets like Margo Cramer '12 dominates life.

**5** MEN'S TRACK AND FIELD Michael Schmidt '12: fastest D3 10K time in the country. Badass.

**6** MEN'S TENNIS They're just warming up for greatness.

**7** BASEBALL Tough series against some great starting pitching.

**8** MEN'S LACROSSE Six straight losses. Struggles.

# Men's tennis takes off to 10-2 start

By Alex Edel

The men's tennis team travelled to southern California over spring break where they played five separate schools, leaving the state 3-2. They advanced their record to 10-2 on April 7-8, beating both Connecticut College and Stevens Institute.

The Panthers shut out Conn. College on Saturday, not letting any singles match reach three sets or any doubles matches reach two sets. Stevens Institute proved to be a slightly harder match up, as the Panthers lost at the No. 2 and No. 3 singles spots. However, in the other four singles spots the Panthers did not let more than one game past them per set.

"In our wins, our team did a great job of fighting hard, even when the match got a bit dicey," said Derrick Angle '12. "Nobody gave up and everyone competed in such a way that gave us the upper hand."

The trip started on somewhat of a low note as the Panthers fell to Vanguard 6-3 on March 25. The three wins came at the No. 3 singles spot from Brantner Jones '14, and the No. 5 and 6 singles spot from Teddy Fitzgibbons '14 and Zach Bruchmiller '14 respectively. Bruchmiller was able to come back strong after losing the first set 2-6, defeating his opponent, Radek Rosiak 6-2, 6-2 in the following two sets.

"Overall, I think that the California trip went really well," said Angle. "Moving from playing inside to playing outside in addition to the time change proved to be a difficult task."

The same day, the Panthers found much more success against Biola University, only letting one by. In a hard fought three set match, Andrew Liebowitz '14 was unable to defeat David Mossman. Liebowitz fell in the first set 6-2, but was able to come back to win the second set 4-6. The final set proved to be the closest, as Mossman beat out Liebowitz by just one game to win the entire set. Despite losing the first set 3-6, Courtney Mountfield was able to come back extremely strong, winning the next two sets 6-0, 6-1 in the number three singles spot.

The next day, the team travelled to Irvine, Calif., to play Concordia University. The Panthers were able to win 7-2. All singles matches were decided in only two sets, while all the doubles matches were decided in just one set. Only the No. 1 singles spot and the No. 2 doubles spot were able to take home wins for Concordia. Although Alec Parower '13 was beat out in the first set 6-2, he fought back but was unable to pull far enough ahead of Bruno Santarelli, losing the second set by only one game.

After two days off, the team fought off 12th-ranked Pomona-Pitzer with a close 5-4 victory. Pomona players won in both the No. 1 and No. 2 singles spots as well as in the No. 3 and No. 4 doubles spots. Both Jones and Spencer Lunghino '13 were able to beat out their opponents after losing the first set, winning two crucial matches that helped the Panthers victory.

The team went on to play second-ranked Claremont on March 30, losing 6-3 despite four three set matches. Jones and Lunghino took home singles wins while the duo of Lunghino and David Farah '12 were the sole doubles winners for the Panthers.

"I think that our level of play got progressively better as the week progressed, which was a really good sign," said Angle. "We beat a tough team in Pomona and had a chance to beat arguably one of the best programs in Division III."

The team will play at Williams on Friday, April 13, and then will play Bowdoin at home on April 14. These matches will be the last NESCAC opponents Middlebury will play until they play Amherst, the 2011 NCAA champions.

"For this weekends' matches, I am hoping that we compete well and leave everything that we have out on the court," said Angle.

## ENOUGH IS ENOUGH

Damnit, Bobby.

We were so close to the mountaintop. So close to the promised land. With Tyler Wilson coming back, and games against Alabama and LSU at home, it was finally our time to reign atop the impossibly stacked SEC West, finally our time to hoist that crystal ball. Now? Those dreams are more shattered than your ribs after you took a face-dive off your hog into a highway ditch at 50 miles per hour.

For those of you who don't know, the latest hot gossip in the scandal-ridden landscape of major college football is that Arkansas coach Bobby Petrino has been suspended pending an investigation that he lied to the public and university officials following a motorcycle accident on April 1. After the police report was released Thursday, it was revealed that Petrino had a passenger with him whom he failed to disclose during his press conference or privately to his bosses. The passenger in question, with whom Petrino has now admitted to having an "inappropriate relationship," was a 25-year old former Arkansas volleyball player and fiancée of the Razorbacks' Director of Swim Team Operations. Even more damning, she had recently been hired to an administrative position within the Arkansas football program. University athletic director Jeff Long now finds himself in the impossible position of having to decide whether or not Petrino violated his contract (which includes a "morals" clause) and whether that violation was serious enough to represent cause for termination.

Razorback football in Arkansas isn't a religion or a way of life. Those trivial terms apply to small-time programs like Alabama or Texas. Razorback football is an Armageddon, a weekly reminder of the state's collective mortality. It is state pride incarnate — we live with the Hogs' triumphs; after a loss we don't turn on ESPN for a week. The Razorbacks redeem a state too long defined (in the national media) by hillbilly ignorance and redneck politics. Bobby Petrino had been that redeemer. He had won 21 games in the last two seasons, taken the Hogs to a BCS bowl appearance, and won a Cotton Bowl en route to a No. 5 national ranking at the end of last season. But now he is our shame, an image of a coach with an already less-than-reputable past forcing our shared humiliation into the limelight. Winning can cure a lot of things in the SEC. It can't cure this. Fire Bobby Petrino.

Let me be perfectly clear — I am in no way passing judgment on Petrino for his apparent infidelity. That's between him and his family, and in a state that just named its biggest airport after its most famous adulterer (Slick Willy, anybody?) marital failings are hardly a cause for exile. But this case stinks more than your average sex scandal. Petrino is the state's highest paid public employee — he makes 3.6 million dollars a year. At that pay grade, you need to be held accountable for putting your mistress on your employer's payroll. But more than that, this case exemplifies all of the problems that plague college football today. Jeff Long is at a crossroads of the sport — he can retain Petrino in a clear endorsement of the current NCAAF mantra "winning above all," or he can say "enough is enough" and show Bobby the door. Petrino has thrown our state's pride in the mud. Arkansas is once again the laughingstock, and on a certain level, no amount of winning will ever redeem that. Firing Petrino will set our program, on the cusp of a national championship, back at least five years. But it's exactly what we need to do. Someone needs to stand up to the toxic landscape of major college football and set an example for the future of the sport. Screw you, Nick Saban. F\*ck off, Jerry Sandusky. So long, everything USC has ever done to get ahead. It's time for Arkansas, my indomitable home, to make that stand. Don't crash your bike on your ride out, Bobby. Woo Pig Sooie.

— Dillon Hupp '12 is a sports editor from Little Rock, Ark.

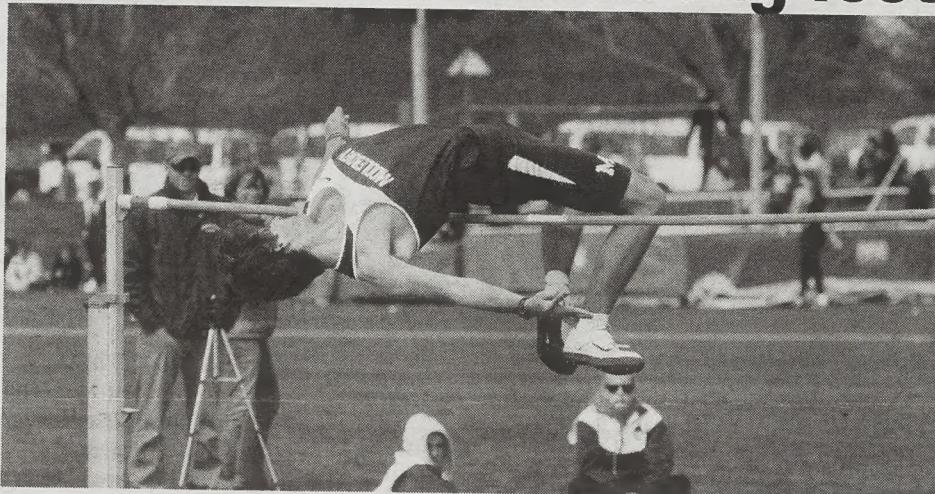
# Track and field starts season on strong foot

By Katie Siegner

As the track and field teams transitioned outside for the spring season, neither the men's nor the women's side have missed a beat, continuing their strong performances from indoor track into the great outdoors. The teams traveled to San Diego, Calif., over Spring Break to open their season with meets hosted by Point Loma Nazarene University. Upon their return to Vermont, the Panthers faced slightly more adverse weather conditions, but remained unruffled by the strong winds and cold temperatures in their home invitational last Saturday, April 7. Meanwhile, Michael Schmidt '12 competed in a D1 meet held at Stanford University to qualify for NCAAs in the 10K, which he did with a time of 29:23.62, good enough to set a new school record and earn a first-place rank in the event nationwide.

"[Schmidt's] performance was the highlight of the week," said men's tri-captain Sam Miller '12. "We were all excited to see what he could do in a field like that and he did not disappoint. His time of 29:23 is the sixth fastest D3 10K of all time."

In the first outdoor meet of the season, held Saturday, March 24, Middlebury performed up to its usual standards of excellence, with the women placing first in the field of 10 teams and the men turning in a third-place finish. Highlighting the strong Panther showing, women's tri-captain Margo Cramer '12 and men's runner Patrick Hebble '13 received performer of the week honors. On the women's side, Cramer swept the field in the 1,500, finishing with a time of 4:37.82. Addie Tousley '13 won the 5,000 in 17:35.69, and Lauren Pincus '14 took the javelin event with a throw measuring 123'11". For the men, Hebble, Jack Davies '13 and Schmidt swept the top three spots in the 1,500, finishing in rapid



Diego Galan Donlo '15 bends to clear the bar in the high jump this past weekend, at the Panther Invitational, the only home meet that Middlebury will host this spring.

succession with times of 3:58.49, 3:58.89 and 3:59.93, respectively. Middlebury competed in a second meet primarily against the host school the following Saturday, and continued to rack up the victories, capturing 17 different events. Mark Delaney '12 threw well for the Panthers in the field events, winning the shot put and placing second in the discus and hammer. Cramer, who can't seem to lose, added two more wins to her tally, racing in the 800 and the 3,000 steeplechase.

This past weekend, Middlebury hosted its only home invitational of the spring, competing against Bowdoin and Springfield. True to form, the women won the meet with a score of 147, and the men finished second behind Bowdoin with 137 points. The first-place Panther women won the 400-, 800- and 1,500-meter races, as Juliet Ryan-Davis '13 (58.50), Cramer (2:17.20) and Rebecca Fanning '12 (4:47.91) dominated

their respective fields. In other events, Mia Martinez '12 won the 100 hurdles in 15.02 and Grace Doering '13 took the high jump. The men's team performances were marked by a double-win effort by first-year Taylor Shortsleeve '15 in the 110 hurdles and the high jump. Davies, like Cramer, took home the 800 for Middlebury, despite the fact that both runners had competed in Princeton's Sam Howell Invitational, a DI meet the day before, in order to face stronger competition.

Middlebury runners are consistently proving the elite status of Panther track at the D3 level and beyond, as Schmidt's performance attests: he was the only D3 runner invited to the Stanford meet.

"I was really happy with my race," said Schmidt. "It was my personal best by over a minute and I ran close to my outdoor 5K PR in the second half, so that gets me excited about the coming races and NESCACs."

# Softball 13-7 after five game win streak

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a two-run single by Jessa Hoffman '13 that ended Friday's contest in the bottom of the fifth inning, a triple by Christina Bicks '15 in the third inning of Saturday's later game, and a triple by Emily Kraytenburg '14 in the fifth and final inning of the second game on Saturday.

Despite the Panthers' strong NESCAC record so far, the team has a much different make-up than it did last year when it won a NESCAC title. Notably, the team welcomed four new first-year players this season. Of the relatively young team, pitcher Alexa Lesenskyj '14 said, "[We are] not a dominant team yet, but we have a lot of team chemistry; that is probably our largest asset."

The team certainly bonded in Claremont, Fla., where the players spent

spring break training and playing teams from all over the country. At the end of the week in Florida, the Panthers had a 5-6 record, with wins over Oberlin College and Mount Mercy, among others. Upon returning to campus, the team opened its home season with a double header against Johnson State on April 1 that left its opponents defeated 6-1 and 16-0.

In response to what message this past weekend's games against Hamilton sends to other NESCAC teams, Lesenskyj said, "It's not so much about what other NESCAC teams think of us, but how far we can go as a team." Still, the outlook is good for the Panthers this season.

Middlebury will continue with games against Skidmore and Wesleyan this week, with the games against Wesleyan to be played at Middlebury on Friday, April 13 and Saturday, April 14.



Elizabeth Morris '14 winds up during one of the team's three 8-0 wins last weekend.

## Women's lacrosse opens with 9 straight wins

By Fritz Parker

Coming off three dominant spring break performances, the Panthers women's lacrosse team pushed their record to an unblemished 9-0 this past week with conference victories over two top-15 nationally ranked opponents, Bowdoin on March 31 and Amherst on April 7. After notching wins over NESCAC opponents Wesleyan and Tufts on the first weekend of break, March 24 and 25, the Panthers travelled to Colorado College where they outshot the host Tigers 35-16 en route to an 18-6 victory on March 28. Returning home, Middlebury successfully defended its top-10 national ranking against 11th-ranked Bowdoin on March 31, riding a fast start to a 16-10 victory.

After Bowdoin struck first in the game, the Panthers netted five goals over the next 10 minutes to jump out to a 5-1 advantage. Following three goals by the Polar Bears, Middlebury used three of their own, including consecutive scores from Liz Garry '12, to push the lead back to four at 8-4. In the waning seconds of the half, Margaret Souther '13 found the net to give the Panthers a 10-6 halftime lead.

"Basically we controlled the whole tempo of the game, proving

to be unstoppable on attack," said Souther. "Our team is unique because we do not have just one or two offensive threats for teams to worry about but all seven of our attackers are very talented players, all capable of creating scoring opportunities."

The second half saw Bowdoin score twice to move within two, only to see three consecutive Middlebury goals — including two from Eliza Herzog '14, who finished with four on the afternoon — put the game out of reach. Souther later netted her third and fourth of the day to give the Panthers the 16-10 victory.

The following Saturday, April 7, after defeating visiting Hamilton 10-4 in a mid-week game, the Panthers travelled to Amherst to take on the 11th-ranked Lord Jeffs. In the first half, Middlebury had their hands full containing Amherst's All-American attacker, and were not able to separate themselves on the scoreboard. Four Panthers found the net in the half, only to see the Lord Jeffs answer with goals of their own. Middlebury went into the half clinging to a 4-3 lead.

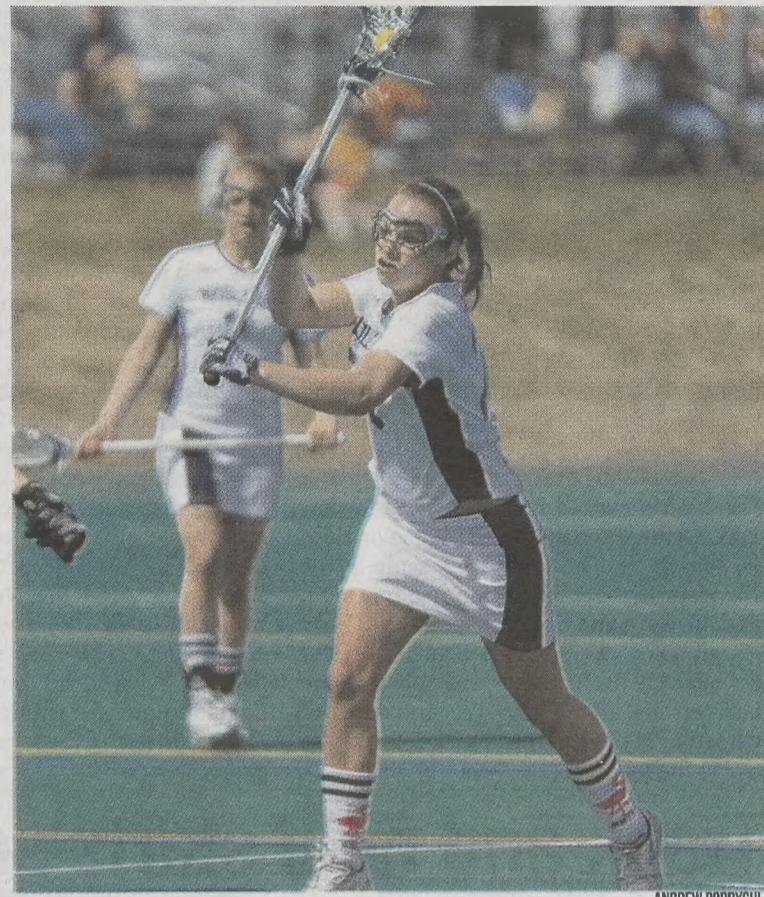
The Panthers emerged from the break with renewed intensity on both the offensive and defensive

ends. Consecutive goals from Cat Fowler '15 — both off of feeds from Souther — capped four unanswered scores for Middlebury, giving them an 8-3 lead midway through the half. The deficit proved too much for the Lord Jeffs, who scored two late goals but ultimately fell short, giving the Panthers an 8-5 win.

"After getting together at halftime we knew that we needed to help each other out on our set plays in the offensive end, in terms of making good cuts and making good feeds," said Fowler. "From there we began to change the momentum and really connect and get some pretty goals. Our defense shut down their leading scorer by playing strong and aggressive defense."

The win gave Middlebury a 9-0 record on the season, including seven NESCAC victories. It also sets up the Panthers' home matchup with Trinity on Saturday, April 14, the victor of which will stand alone atop the conference. With both teams ranked in the top 10 in the nation, the contest will also carry far-reaching national implications.

"We have lots of momentum going into this game vs. Trinity on Saturday, but I think our confidence will be key in the matchup," said Souther.



ANDREW PODRYGULA

The women's lacrosse team won nine straight victories and will look to continue their winning streak against Trinity on April 14.

## Softball shuts out Hamilton at home



ANDREW PODRYGULA

Sarah Boylan '13 unleashes a swing as the Panthers convincingly swept Hamilton at home this past weekend. Middlebury dispatched the Continentals by mercy rule three straight times.

By Kate Milley

This past Saturday, April 7, the Middlebury softball team completed a three-game series against Hamilton College that took place over the weekend and resulted in a solid Panther victory: Middlebury won all three games by the fifth inning with final scores of 8-0. Hamilton is the first NESCAC team that Middlebury has played this year, indicating that Middlebury is most likely destined for another dominant season.

Last year, the Panthers won the NESCAC tournament for the very first time and also made their debut appearance in the NCAA Tournament last May. In 2011, the Panthers set a new school record with a 30-8 mark, breaking or tying 25 school

records. The conclusion of the 2011 season also summoned the graduation of seven of the team's seniors, many of whom — including ex-team captain and current team assistant coach, Emily Burbage '11 — were key players on the team.

The Panthers are coping with the loss of the seniors, however, and the relatively young team currently has a 13-7 record, highlighted by the aforementioned sweep of Hamilton College this past weekend during which the Panthers outscored the Continentals (6-14, 0-6) by a score of 24-0 and out-hit their opponents 34-9.

Notable plays of the weekend games against Hamilton include

SEE SOFTBALL, PAGE 23

## Baseball back to square one after road sweep at Wesleyan

By Dillon Hupp

After taking two of three from Williams during their annual spring break trip to Arizona, the Middlebury baseball team seemed poised to take control of the NESCAC West division and entrench themselves in the second playoff spot behind a stacked Amherst team. However, following a three-game sweep of the Panthers at Wesleyan last weekend on April 6 and 7, Middlebury finds themselves in a familiar position, fighting for their playoff lives halfway through the 2012 season.

"Getting swept by Wesleyan puts us in a tough spot in terms of the playoff picture, but all we can control is the way we play against Hamilton," said Matt Wessel '12. "We certainly did not play our best against Wesleyan, and we know that we have to be better in every aspect of the game to beat Hamilton."

The Panthers opened their season in Arizona on March 24, falling 7-5 to Carthage. However, they rebounded from there, and entered the all-important Williams series with a record of 5-4. In their first game against the Ephs, Middlebury jumped out to a 13-0 lead. The Panthers' offensive explosion was aided by a 10-run sixth inning, which saw three Williams errors and eight Panthers hits. Williams attempted a furious comeback, scoring seven runs in the eighth and ninth innings, but Andy Dittrich '13 came in to put out the fire and secure the 13-8 Middlebury win.

Williams and Middlebury

played two the following day, splitting the doubleheader and handing the Panthers the series win. In the first game the teams went back-and-forth, with the Ephs tying the game in their half of the final frame at 3 runs apiece. However, Middlebury would not even entertain the idea of extra innings, as every Panther batter reached base in the bottom of the seventh en route to a Dan Andrada '15 walk-off RBI when he was issued a base on balls, scoring shortstop Will Baine '12.

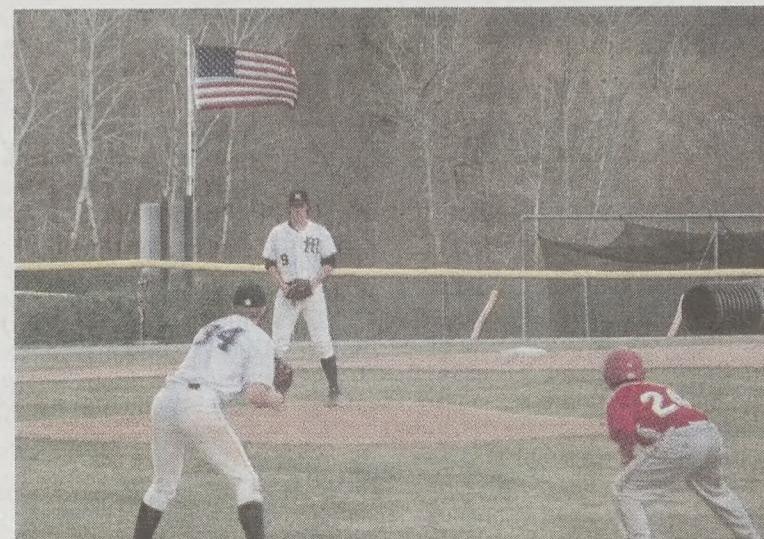
The second game of the doubleheader was a similarly tight affair until the final two innings, when Williams scored two in the eighth and then five in the ninth to come away with the 8-1 victory. Nevertheless, the two wins in the series for Middlebury were good enough

for second place in the NESCAC West, putting them in early position for the conference playoffs.

The Panthers postseason hopes took a severe hit last weekend, however, after they were swept on the road by the Cardinals of Wesleyan. Poor pitching plagued the Panthers, who were outscored 20-4 over the final two games of the series.

In the first game, Wesleyan jumped out to the early lead, scoring four in the first inning off Panther starter Mike Joseph '13. However, Joseph returned to form in the following innings, and Middlebury began to claw its way back into the game. Trailing 5-1 heading into the sixth, the Panthers plated three runs behind a Tyler Wark

SEE BASEBALL, PAGE 21



BRITTANY THOMAS

Lefty Noah Bakker '15 checks the Wesleyan runner at first, held on by first-baseman Hunter Merryman '15. Bakker pitched three innings and allowed just one hit in the 10-1 loss.

